



Laser Hair Removal

SILKE AESTHETICS
THE PETERBOROUGH CLINIC
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PETERBOROUGH, ON

LASER

Light Amplification by the Stimulated Emission of Radiation

Laser Light Properties

- Monochromaticity single wavelength
- directionality- beam well collimated; parallel rays
- coherence waves in phase

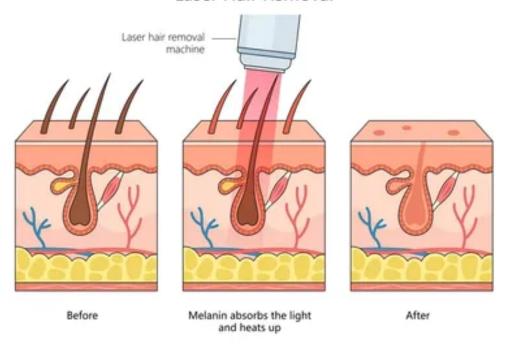
Laser Hair Removal - Mechanism of Action

Selective photothermolysis



Selective Photothermolysis

Laser Hair Removal





Laser Hair Removal - Indications

Approved by Health Canada for permanent hair reduction

- Cosmetic (most common use in women and men)
- Hirsutism (growth of excessive male-pattern hair in women after puberty. It affects facial and body areas dependent on androgens, namely mustache and beard, pubic hair, buttocks, and thighs). Causes:
 - PCOS
 - Congenital adrenal hyperplasia
 - Androgen secreting tumors
 - Medications (androgens, glucocorticosteroids, progestins, estrogen antagonists (clomiphene, tamoxifen), minoxidil, cyclosporine, danazol, diazoxide, phenytoin, D-penicillamine, interferon)
- Pseudofolliculitis barbae (razor bumps)



Factors Affecting Outcome of LHR

Patient Factors

- Percentage of hairs that are in the anagen stage of the growth cycle
- Color, thickness, density of hair
- Skin type (Fitzpatrick scale I to IV)
- Site of hair removal
- Hormonal profile

Laser Parameters

- Type of laser
- Fluence (energy delivered J/cm²)
- Spot Size (size of laser head used)
- Pulse Duration (time period over which the energy is delivered (in ms); related to thermal relaxation time)

Types of Lasers for Hair Removal

- Ruby Laser (694 nm) best for Fitzpatrick I-III
- Alexandrite Laser (755 nm)- best for Fitzpatrick I-IV
- Nd:YAG Laser (1064nm)- best for Fitzpatrick types III-VI
- Diode (800 nm) Fitzpatrick types I-VI
- ▶ IPL (not laser) broad spectrum 500-1200nm; use filters to eliminate shorter wavelengths (higher cutoff value filters for darker skin types)



Diode Laser (Venus Velocity)

- For laser hair removal only (800 nm wavelength absorbed well by the melanin in the hair)
- Can use on all Fitzpatrick Skin Types I to VI
- Can vary the fluence, spot size, pulse duration, pulse frequency
- Pulse and Slide modes
- Cooling system for the crystal head
- Use Ultrasound gel (helps in laser light transmission, gliding over skin, cooling)





Venus Velocity at Silke



LHR – Our Process

- Consultation and spot testing
- Pre-care
- Laser Procedure
- Post-care
- Repeat 4- 6 cycles
- Maintenance treatments in some cases



Consultation and Spot Testing

- Overview of the LHR process and discussion of potential risks and side effects
- Which body part(s) for LHR
- Medication history (photosensitizing drugs, Accutane)
- Skin conditions (psoriasis, eczema, herpes)
- Fitzpatrick skin type (I-VI)
- Hair assessment (Color, thickness, density)
- History with LHR
- Pre and post care instructions around LHR
- Sign Consent form
- Spot test
- Usually a 20 mins observation period. For some skin types up to a 48 hour observation period may be required



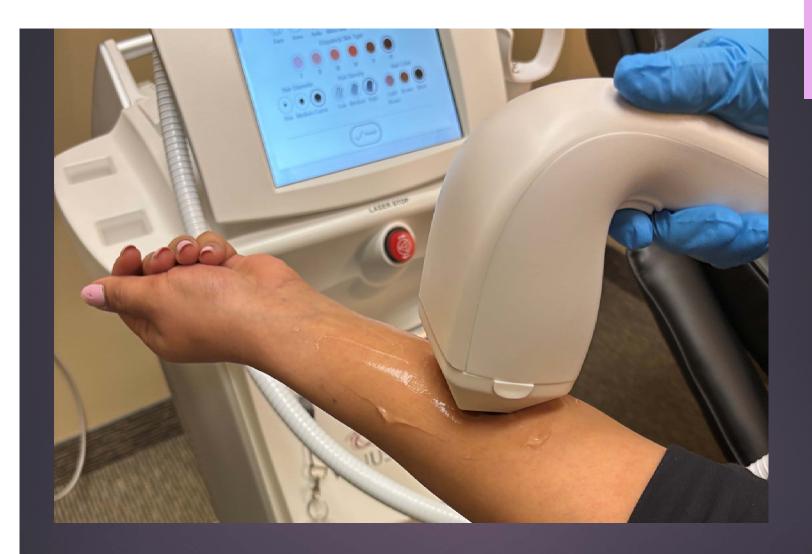
Precare

- Abstain from sun tanning/salon tanning 4 weeks before procedure (no active tan)
- Avoid photosensitizing meds before procedure
- Avoid antibiotics 2 weeks prior to procedure
- Hormonal therapy may impact results
- No plucking, waxing, depilatory creams 4 weeks prior to procedure
- Shave 12 to 24 hours before the procedure.
- Avoid active skincare products (retinoids, alpha hydroxy acids (AHAs), beta hydroxy acids (BHAs), and other exfoliants) 2 weeks prior to procedure

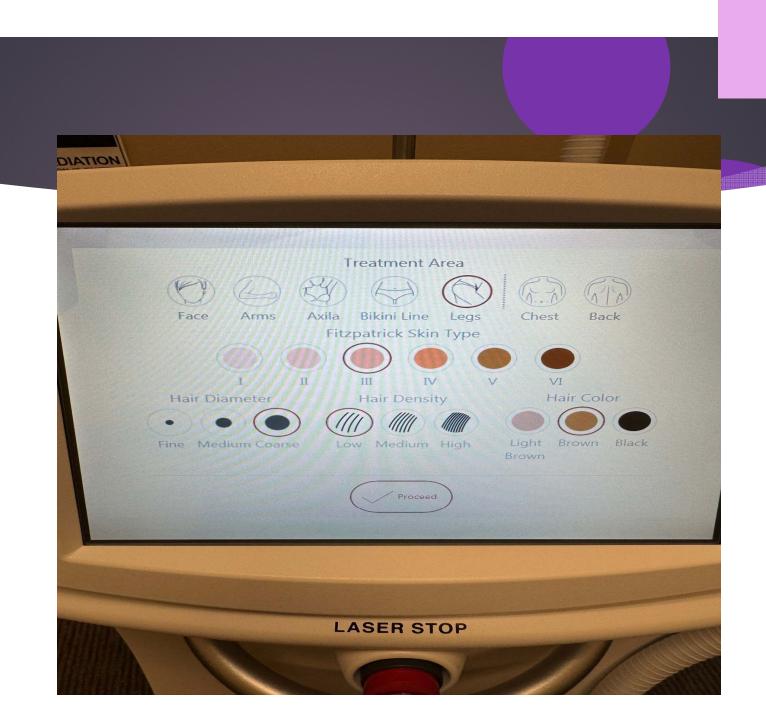
Day of Treatment

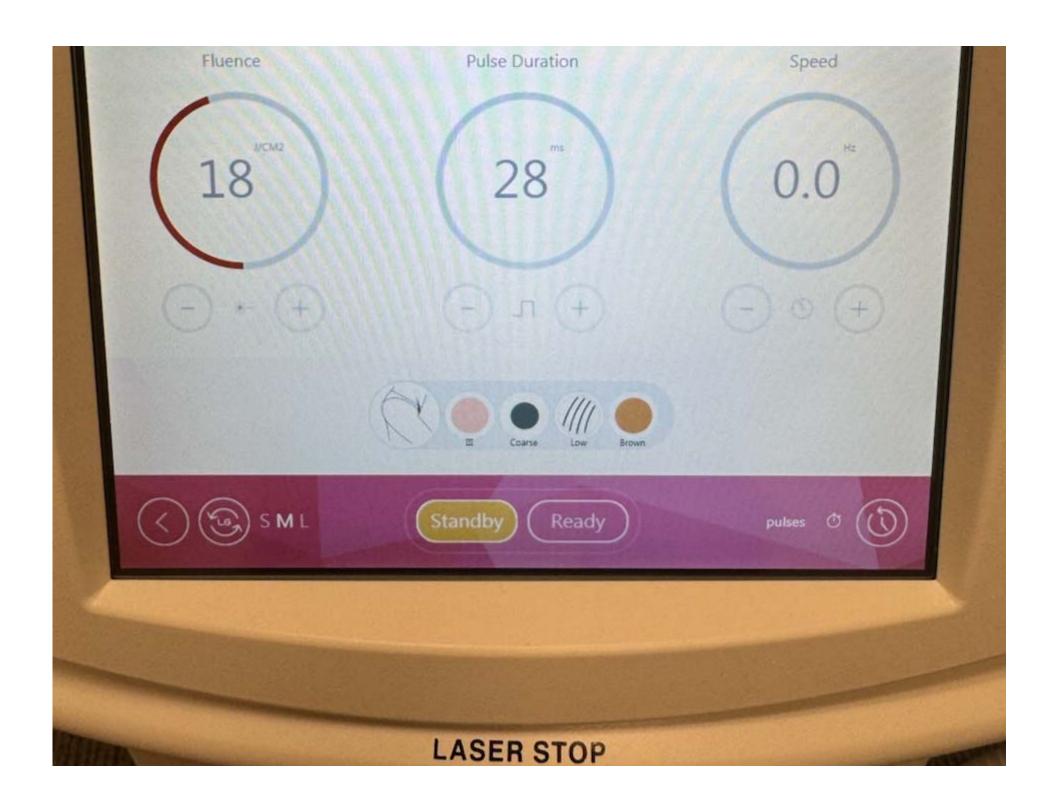
• Clean skin only: Arrive with clean, dry skin—no makeup, deodorant, lotion, or oils on the treatment area.





Procedure





Post-care

Immediately After Treatment (First 24–48 Hours)

- Avoid heat exposure: Refrain from hot showers, saunas, steam rooms, hot tubs, and intense exercise for at least 24–48 hours.
- No makeup, deodorant on the treated area for 24 hours

General Aftercare (First Week)

- Avoid sun exposure or tanning beds: Use a broad-spectrum SPF 30+ daily.
- Do not pick or scratch
- Avoid exfoliating products: Refrain from using retinoids, glycolic acid, salicylic acid, and scrubs for about 5-7 days or until the skin returns to normal.
- Stay hydrated and moisturize gently.

Hair Shedding

- Shedding is normal: Over the next 1–3 weeks, treated hairs will shed.
- Do not pluck or wax: Shaving is allowed if needed, but avoid removing hair from the root.



BEFORE

AFTER





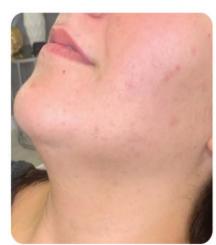
RESULTS AFTER 1 HAIR REMOVAL TREATMENT



BEFORE

AFTER





RESULTS AFTER 1 HAIR REMOVAL TREATMENT



BEFORE

AFTER





RESULTS AFTER 6 HAIR REMOVAL TREATMENTS



BEFORE

AFTER





RESULTS AFTER 6 HAIR REMOVAL TREATMENTS



Reimbursement for LHR

- Currently not covered by provincial health benefit plans
- Private Insurance (third party plans may cover where physician considers it medically necessary, under Special Authorization)
 - Special Authorization request letter required
- Successful coverage through some Health Spending Accounts



Contact

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