

Frequently Asked Questions About Laser Hair Removal

Can all skin colors be treated?

Yes, all skin types I through VI can be treated. Skin Type I is very fair, always burns, never tans (usually blond hair and blue eyes). Skin Type VI never burns (dark skin, dark hair and eyes).

Can tanned skin be treated?

Tanned skin can be treated safely, but always inform your physician if you have been tanning, using tanning products, or exposed to the sun within the last three weeks. He will adjust your treatment regimen accordingly to give you the safest, most effective experience.

How should prepare for my treatment?

Please shave at least 3 days before your appointment. Stubble should be clearly visible and approximately 1 mm in length. Refrain from waxing, tweezing, or bleaching 3 weeks prior to your treatment.

What happens during hair removal treatment?

The area of your skin that is to be treated will be scanned with laser light from the Profile system. Some procedures will require the patient to bring a responsible adult driver. Treatment time will depend upon the area to be treated. A system for cooling your skin will be used to remove heat as it leaves the follicles and should ensure a comfortable treatment. However, since the sensation varies from individual to individual, a topical anesthesia can be provided.

How does it work?

The Profile laser selectively targets your hair follicles and heats them with infrared energy. Unlike other processes the laser beam treats many hairs at once making treatment of large areas practical. The Profile employs a unique computer-guided scanning system that automates the treatment, ensuring that your skin is rapidly and evenly treated. The computer sets the parameters and places the beam in an optimum pattern for your skin to ensure a safe, fast, effective and gentle treatment.

What should I expect after treatment?

Some redness and slight swelling may be present in the area that has been treated; however, this should subside within a few hours. If any prolonged redness or swelling occurs, consult your physician. Keep the treated area clean, use at least SPF 30 sunscreen when outdoors, and follow physician instructions.

How many treatments will I need?

You may need to be treated between 5 to 10 times at intervals of 3 to 8 weeks. There are three phases of hair growth – anagen, catagen, and telogen. Only hairs in the active growth phase, anagen, can be successfully treated.

Is there a risk of complications?

Temporary pigmentation changes are possible but seldom occur. Always discuss your concerns with your physician prior to your treatment.

Can in-grown hair be treated?

The infrared energy delivered by Profile can be used to remove all types of hair. Sometimes “shaving bumps” can cover a follicle, but the penetrating light of the Profile can still be safely used.