

## **Skin Pigmentation**

### **What is cause of pigmented lesions?**

Nearly 100% of humans have one or more pigmented lesion. Some are cause by sun exposure, others by aging. Still others are congenital. Regardless of the cause, pigmented lesions are simply spots on the skin where there is a higher concentration of melanin. Some lesions are flat; others are raised. In most cases, pigmented lesions are merely a cosmetic concern.

### **How does treatment improve color and tone?**

Approved by the FDA, Advanced Fluorescent Technology targets pigmentation and diminishes sun spots, discolorations, and redness in the skin. It also improves dull complexions, uneven skin tone and large pores.

AFT pulsed light is applied in a series of gentle pulses over the treatment area. Without damaging the skin, the light penetrates the sub-surface skin layers and is absorbed by the blood vessels or by pigmentation. The heat impairs the vessel or lesion, and the body begins its natural healing process. Laser skin tightening involves the use of lasers to achieve deep dermal heating. Heating the connective tissue and collagen in the deep dermis causes shrinkage of the tissues and an overall tightening of skin as the body's natural repair mechanism is stimulated. Deep skin cells contract, and new collagen is deposited as well. The laser procedure is fast, gentle, precise, and is effective on all types of skin - even tanned skin.

### **Is there any pain during treatment?**

Minor discomfort is experienced when the laser is fired, often described as a rubber band being snapped on the skin.

### **Is there any side effects?**

There is no downtime and make-up can be applied immediately after the treatment. No. You cannot be burned by this laser. There are no known long-term side effects.

### **Are multiple laser treatments necessary?**

Multiple laser treatments are sometimes necessary for more darkly pigmented lesions. Small, lightly colored lesions are usually permanently gone after one laser treatment. About 60%-80% of common freckles and age spots resolve after one treatment. Some need a second treatment, and a few need to be treated more than twice. Some blemishes do not disappear completely, but will be significantly lighter in color after treatment.

Because there is a great deal of variability in the size, depth and darkness of freckles, age spots and pigmented nevi, and because there is some variability in people's natural ability to clear away pigment after laser treatment, it is not possible to "promise" you that a certain result will happen after a fixed number of treatments. How well your lesions respond depends on several factors.