



FAQs – Fractional Ablative Resurfacing (CO2, Erbium)

What is the procedure used for?

- This is the second-most aggressive and effective resurfacing offered for mild to severe wrinkles and texture changes and acne scarring on the face.

What changes can I expect right after treatment?

- Swelling, crusting, oozing, discomfort for 2-4 days
- Redness, peeling, mild crusting for up to 1 week
- Residual redness up to 2 weeks that can be covered by makeup once crusting has resolved.

When will I be completely healed?

- At 1 week most patients will have only mild scattered redness which can be covered with makeup. Social engagements are not recommended for at least 1 week after treatment.

How many treatments are recommended? How far apart?

- 1-3 treatments depending on severity of surface wrinkles and texture, spaced 3-4 months apart.

How painful is treatment?

- Pain 6/10. Most patients elect for oral pain medicine and anxiolytic (Ativan) taken one hour before treatment, making it well-tolerated; but you must have a driver to take you home. Anesthetic nerve blocks are sometimes administered by your doctor first to sensitive areas such as around the mouth (dental block).

How long does the treatment take?

- Expect to be in the office for around 2 hours, but the actual treatment time averages 1 hour for a full face treatment, and shorter if only focal areas are treated like around the mouth or for localized acne scarring.

When can I expect to see the full results?

- The full result of collagen building and improved skin appearance takes 3-4 months.