Love The Skin You're In



Q & A with Annette Pennington Aesthetician and Skin Care Specialist

NEW WAY TO SAY "WRINKLES BE GONE"



Treatment Diminishes Wrinkles, Scars and Discolorations

Aesthetician and skin care specialist Annette Pennington answers questions about Invasix' new Fractora and Fractora Firm treatments, which are creating successful results for patients through a smoother process than previously available. Perhaps the best part is that there is no daunting recovering time involved.

Q: What are some of the newer ways to tackle areas that demonstrate fine or deep wrinkles, scars or discolored red and brown skin tone?

A: There are now two wonderful non-invasive treatments for rejuvenation, introduced by Invasix. They are Fractora and Fractora Firm.

Q: What is Fractora and how does it work?

A: Fractora is a versatile skin resurfacing treatment providing superior skin improvements by fractionally ablating the skin (using tiny "micropoints") and restructuring the deeper tissue using bipolar radio frequency. The RF energy is released into the skin using an array of pin electrodes, creating zones of ablation, coagulation and heat. The gentle heating promotes collagen restructuring for a deep treatment effect. The combination of ablation and deep heat can provide dramatic improvement of fine and deep lines, skin tone and texture, as well as skin tightening and the reduction of red and brown spots

Fractora Firm uses RF to provide optimal skin contraction (tightening) in the deep layers of the skin. Radio frequency energy will stimulate the new formation of collagen and elastin, causing lifting, tightening and an overall improved appearance.

Q: What are the most common areas of treatment with Fractora?

A: The most common areas to treat

are cheeks, mouth, neck, smile lines, forehead and upper and lower eyelids.

Q: What are some of the benefits of using Invasix treatments instead of some of the other popular ones?

A: The use of *fractionated energy* has been proven over the years to vastly improve the appearance of aging skin with minimal downtime. Fractora treatments may be combined with other treatments and post-procedure care is minimal. It's just the use of moisturizer and sunscreen! There are alternative methods of treatment, such as lasers, CO2, IPL for skin rejuvenation, but, as of today, there is no system on the market that can address the variety of issues that Fractora does.

Q: Is this medically-cleared?

A: Yes. It was FDA-approved in 2011.

Q: Who performs the treatments?

A: Specially-trained licensed professionals perform them.

Q: Are there any risks associated with use of Invasix?

A: There are some possible side effects that include local pain, skin redness, swelling, and change in pigmentation. These effects are rare and temporary.

Q: What would be the criteria that a patient should meet in order for Invasix use to be successful?

A: Patients must be age 18 or over and cannot be pregnant or nursing. They must not have a pacemaker or internal defibrillator, impaired immune system, severe cardiac disorders, uncontrolled hypertension, liver or kidney disease. They cannot have used Accutane for six months prior to treatment, or have used superficial injection of Botox or fillers two weeks prior to treatment.

Q: How long does the treatment take, and how much downtime is involved?

A: The treatment involves a few sessions (one to five) a few weeks apart (three to six). Downtime is minimal. Tiny scabs may appear on the face for a few days, however make-up may be applied as soon as one to three days after a session.

Q: How long do the benefits last? Is there a way to maintain the benefits for as long as possible?

A: Treatment is concluded when the results are satisfactory to the patient, or according to the physician's discretion. One treatment every one to three months will maintain the treatment results. IMAGE

Annette Pennington is the aesthetician and skin care specialist at Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, P.C. in Great Neck. She works in conjunction with plastic surgeons Dr. Randall Feingold, Dr. Ron Israeli. Dr. Peter Korn and Dr. David Light. For more information, call 516-498-8400 or visit www.aestheticplasticsurgerypc.com.