Let's face it: Even with the multitude of amazing benefits that come with aging (read: increased wisdom and self-confidence, inching closer to retirement), it's safe to say that none of us are in a hurry to welcome the other side-effects of Father Time, like wrinkles, uneven pigmentation or loose skin. The good news? No matter your complexion issue, you can still win the anti-aging fight, says Dr. Stephen Mulholland, renowned plastic surgeon and owner of Toronto's SpaMedica. Take skin that lacks volume, for example. Dr. Mulholland says this type of complexion can benefit from a few injections of soft tissue filler, which will quickly restore fullness and offer a natural looking effect. For faces that have become thin, wrinkled, saggy and discoloured as a result of sun damage, smoking, poor diet, weight loss and weight gain, FractoraFacial, a new technology that utilizes two skin-rejuvenating treatments called Fractora and FractoraFIRM, is an ideal solution. "Fractional lasers and photofacial treatments used to be the standard in my clinic for treating these issues, but after experiencing the benefits of both FractoraFacial systems, they are now my treatments of choice."

HOW THEY WORK:

Used to treat fine lines, deep wrinkles, scars, blood vessels, redness, texture and pigment issues, Fractora is a fractional radiofrequency (RF) device that works by utilizing an array of microneedles to gently apply RF energy to the skin at varying depths. The device is passed over the entire face and neck (and body, if needed), where the current begins to stimulate the production of new collagen and elastin. After eight weekly sessions, skin looks noticeably smoother, discolouration is minimized and skin tone and texture are improved. A skin treatment that uses controlled RF to refine sagging areas of the face, particularly on the cheeks, under-eye area, jaw line, neck and loose body skin, FractoraFIRM differs from other radiofrequency technologies such as Thermage and Fraxel in that the FractoraFIRM applicator is constantly measuring skin temperature and automatically adjusting its energy levels to produce and maintain the ideal

temperature for tissue contraction. This ultimately allows for a much greater degree of skin tightening, comfort and overall patient safety. FractoraFIRM patients can expect skin to be swollen and red for several hours following this treatment, but will see improvements within the first week. Eight once-a-week sessions are recommended for best results.

THE IDEAL PATIENT:

All skin types and shades can benefit from these technologies, says Dr. Mulholland, and because they are more advanced than other radiofrequency treatments like Thermage and Fraxel, patients won't experience the pain or questionable results often associated with the latter. "This program is the most advanced, non-surgical skin rejuvenation program I've worked with. It's a great choice for almost everyone."

TREATMENT TIME AND AFTERCARE:

Both treatments take approximately one hour to complete and are performed under local anesthesia. For the best, longest-lasting results, Dr. Mulholland recommends patients undergoing one or both of the FractoraFacial treatments to partake in a regular, preventative followup session every three months. "Fillers can be used for any additional deflation and volume loss following a FractoraFIRM treatment, and Botox can serve as a way to protect and enhance wrinkle reduction from a Fractora treatment."

FRACTORA® AT A GLANCE

A fractional, micro-needle
RadioFrequency device used to
treat fine or deep lines, skin texture,
pigment irregularities, scars, blood
vessels and redness in a single
treatment session through the
resurfacing of the skin. Fractora
offers improvements for aging
skin that would normally require
two, three or even four different
technologies.

FRACTORA FIRM® AT A GLANCE

An unprecedented skin treatment that utilizes controlled RadioFrequency heating to provide optimal skin contraction temperatures in a manner no other RF technology can achieve.













"I look 8 years younger in 8 weeks. A great alternative to facelift surgery"

Wendy B. Scott