

# Efficient laser procedures require high performance



In recent years the Nd:YAG laser has become the gold standard in aesthetic laser medicine. Its homogenous and deep penetration into the skin and low absorption in skin pigments allows practitioners to treat all skin types without thermally affecting the upper skin layers. This is especially important when performing hair removal, vascular, acne and rejuvenation treatments on patients with darker skin types (Fitzpatrick skin types IV-VI). The characteristics of the Nd:YAG laser ensure levels of patient comfort, treatment safety and efficacy that other light-based solutions cannot meet.

The boom in demand for Nd:YAG laser treatments requires procedures to be fast and efficient, yet remain effective and safe. In addition, laser practices need user-friendly solutions that increase precision and do not require high levels expertise, allowing clinical staff to administer the treatments. The developments of Nd:YAG scanners and handpieces that provide large spot sizes have partially fulfilled these requirements.

However it still remains a challenge for most manufacturers to provide a laser system, with high enough performance characteristics that maximise the potential of scanners and large spot size handpieces in a wider range of treatments. High performance characteristics are necessary to achieve the desired clinical effect when using larger spot sizes or a scanner. They also widen the range of effective parameter settings available to the practitioners, providing a virtually unlimited range of superior aesthetic treatments. Providing a wide range of clinically effective treatments are essential to patient satisfaction and the success of aesthetic clinics.

Dr. Pierre André has been using lasers in his Paris practice for over 25 years. Having owned several different laser systems he knows the key requirements that a Nd:YAG laser system must have: "Modern practices need a laser system that can perform all key applications for all skin types with minimum procedure time and maximum efficacy" he explains. "Previously we needed to rely on several laser systems because they were limited in the range of parameters they could provide for effective treatments. It is a huge advantage to have just one system to perform all our treatments with the levels of efficacy, efficiency and safety that our clinic is renowned for."

Dr. André now owns the Fotona XP MAX, the latest addition to Fotona's Nd:YAG laser systems range. "Its 120 Joules output energy and 130 Watt output power fulfils all our requirements in a complete range of key treatments. High peak powers combined with variable scanner spot sizes allow us to remove even light, thin hairs. This has opened up a new segment of patients we were unable to treat previously" he says. The Fotona XP MAX is predominantly used by Dr. André in combination with the Fotona S-11 scanner. This provides a scan area of 6.5 x 6.5 cm<sup>2</sup>, allows repetition rates of 75 Hz and supports 3, 6, and 9 mm scanner spot sizes. The different spot sizes are used to control penetration depth, improve accuracy and influence the treatment speed in larger areas. "For non-ablative rejuvenation treatments we use the 3mm spot size with high repetition rates – a major advantage for us. For standard laser hair removal we use a 6mm spot size, but for deeper lying follicles or vascular anomalies we can increase the penetration depth with the 9mm spot size", explains Dr. André. "The range of 2-20mm spot sizes is extremely helpful in a very wide variety of procedures where we do not use the scanner, for example when treating bikini lines."

The Fotona XP MAX was launched on the European markets in 2005 and will be available in the US from early 2006. ●

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## Before and after treatment with the Fotona XP MAX

