

# New Fotona Lasers Raise Technical Standards for Light-Based Treatments

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor

The powerful and versatile Fotona XP Max Nd:YAG and the Q-switched Fotona QX for tattoo removal are two new lasers from Fotona (Ljubljana, Slovenia).

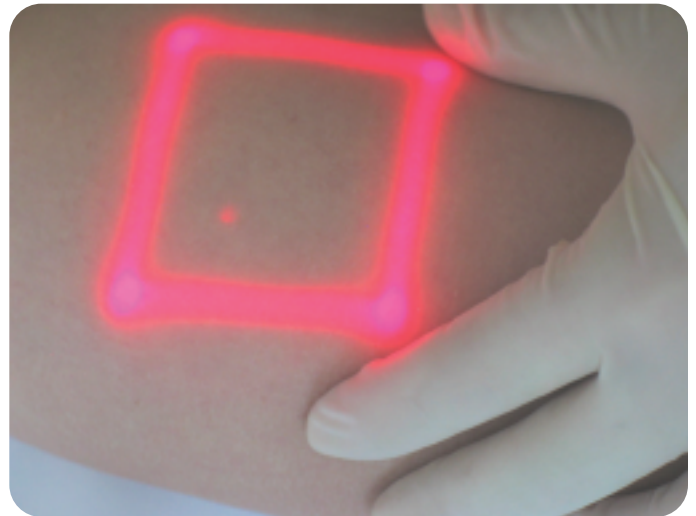
**“The XP Max** is going to be the most powerful vascular and hair laser on the market,” said Thomas Sult, M.D., the United States medical director for Fotona. “It is going to have the largest spot size – somewhere between 20 and 22 mm – and rival the largest spot on a scanner, currently 8 mm. The XP Max will also feature the largest scanner pattern size.”

The high-power XP Max has 130 watts. “With the XP Plus, we can treat at 300 J/cm<sup>2</sup>. But the XP Max will be 25% to 30% more powerful,” stated Dr. Sult. “The biggest advantage of the XP Plus, however, is speed of treatment. For instance, you can treat large body areas of hair rapidly. The scanner will also be able to handle scans at vascular treatment levels, so for a mat of rosacea or fine telangiectasis, you can scan the area rather than treating painstakingly spot-by-spot by hand.”

**Conversely, the** Fotona QX is designed for the removal of tattoos and pigmented lesions. “This laser provides an excellent platform for treating unwanted tattoos,” Dr. Sult said. “It appears that the tattoo removal market is as large as the tattoo application market. The dual wavelength (532 and 1064 nm) of the QX will also give us a really good opportunity to treat hyperpigmentation, such as sun spots. Because the laser is Q-switched, there is a very superficial depth of penetration. We’ll be able to treat these superficial lesions for an excellent cosmetic result, with little or no injury to the underlying tissue.”

“In my hands, the Fotona QX achieves 80% to 90% clearing of tattoos with the first treatment,” said Robin Sult, R.N., who is Dr. Sult’s wife. “I am seeing similar results for pigmented lesions.”

**The married couple** own Aesthetics, Inc. in Willmar, Minn., where hair removal is the most popular indica-



tion for the XP Max laser. “Results are excellent,” Ms. Sult noted. “Because of the scanner, I don’t believe there is any one who can do a treatment faster than me. I also do not encounter any hair removal side effects. In fact, my patients often read a book or take a nap during treatment. This is in contrast to other light-based devices where patients may grip the chair and sweat during the procedure.”

Besides hair and vascular conditions (from tiny telangiectasis to over 4 mm veins), other major indications of the XP Max are skin rejuvenation, acne and warts. “This laser provides the greatest versatility and the greatest flexibility in parameter selection,” said Ms. Sult, the certified international trainer for aesthetic medicine for Fotona. “I also know of no other laser that is safer in protecting the skin. There is a low incidence of side effects. The laser can be used safely on all skin types. It also has the most

patient comfort of any laser.”

**Four years ago,** Dr. Sult and his wife discontinued offering sclerotherapy because of the superior results they were achieving with the Fotona laser. “I usually have excellent clearing with one or two sessions,” Ms. Sult added. ■

