Latest Developments in Lasers and Light Therapies for Acne

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Academic Appointments

- Assistant Clinical Professor
 - Department of Medicine, Division of Dermatology, Nashville, TN USA
 - Vanderbilt University School of Medicine: 2006 2014
 - Vanderbilt University School of Nursing: 2006 Present
- Adjunct Assistant Professor
 - Meharry Medical College: 2013 Present
 - School of Medicine, Nashville, TN USA
- Visiting Professor of Dermatology
 - Huashan Hospital, Fudan University (Shanghai Medical University), Shanghai, China: 2006 - Present
 - The First Hospital of China Medical University, Shenyang, China: 2008 Present
 - Guangdong Provincial People's Hospital, Guangzhou, China: 2013 Present
- Visiting Professor of Plastic Surgery
 - First People's Hospital of Foshan University, Guangdong, China: 2012 Present
 - The First Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, Zhejiang: 2013 Present

ACNE:WHY DO WE CARE

- Affects
 - >80% of adolescents
 - >40% of adults over than 25
- Genetics plays a role
- Associated with
 - Disfigurement
 - Pain
 - Loss of confidence
 - Depression
- Effects on quality of life are comparable to those suffering from chronic diseases like asthma, seizures and diabetes

Conventional Acne Treatment Model



Diagnose

Prescribe

Wait & See

Problem #1 with the Conventional Model: Unpredictable and Provides Limited Efficacy. Patients increasingly do not want drugs

Severity	MILD		MODERATE		SEVERE
	Comedonal	Mixed and Papular/pustular	Mixed and Papular/pustular	Nodular ⁽²⁾	Nodular/Conglobate
1st Choice	Topical Retinoid	Topical Retinoid + Topical Antimicrobial	Oral Antibiotic + Topical Retinoid +/- BPO	Oral Antibiotic + Topical Retinoid + BPO	Oral Isotretinoin ⁽²⁾
Alternatives ⁽¹⁾	Alt. Topical Retinoid or Azelaic acid* or Salicyclic acid	Alt. Topical Retinoid Antimicrobial Agent + Alt. Topical Retinoid or Azelaic Acid*	Alt. Oral Antibiotic + Alt. Topical Retinoid +/- BPO	Oral Isotretinoin or Alt. Oral Antibiotic + Alt. Topical Retinoid	High Dose Oral Antiobiotic +Topical Retinoid + BPO
Alternatives for Females ^(1,4)	See 1st Choice	See 1st Choice	Oral Antiandrogen + Topical Retinoid/ Azelaic Acid* +/- Topical Antimicrobial	Oral Antiandrogen ⁽³⁾ + Topical Retinoid/ +/- Oral Antibiotic +/- Alt. Antimicrobial	High Dose Oral Antiandrogen ⁽³⁾ + Topical Retinoid +/- Alt. Topical Antimicrobial
Maintenance Therapy	Topical Retinoid		Topical Retinoid +/- BPO		

Note: Azelaic acid is not approved for the treatment of acne in Canada. Originally published in Thiboutot D, Golinick H, Bettoli V, et al. New insights into the management of acne: an update from the Global Alliance to Improve Outcomes in Acne group. J Am Acad Dermatol 2009;60(5 Suppl):S1–S50. Copyright Elsevier 2009. Reprinted with permission.

Problem #2 with the Conventional Model: Patient Adherence



Controlling patient outcome is lost as soon as a prescription is written, plus requires administrative time and fees

Problem #3 with the Conventional Model: Prescription prices are costly and rising, even for generics



Your office receives none of this profit

From: Changes in Retail Prices of Prescription Dermatologic Drugs From 2009 to 2015

JAMA Dermatol. 2016;152(2):158-163. doi:10.1001/jamadermatol.2015.3897

Problem #4 with the Traditional Model: Significant results may take up to 12 weeks to appear and hinders



Most dermatology patients see 3-5 doctors before finding one that solves their primary concern

Patients and physicians need a more effective, predictable, and cost-effective, cost-efficient approach to addressing acne for the modern patient

Devices for Acne Expert Review of Dermatology 2006

Novel treatment options for severe inflammatory acne vulgaris

Michael H Gold

Acne vulgaris is one of the most common dermatological disorders encountered in everyday practice. Treatment options for this often psychologically scarring disease are numerous and, for many individuals, provide relief from the disorder. However, factors such as antibiotic resistance and, slow onset of action from many topical therapies has led researchers to seek out alternative therapies, especially for those suffering from moderate to severe inflammatory acne vulgaris.

Expert Rev. Dermatol. 1(1), 13-23 (2006)

Acne Vulgaris

- Laser/Light technology
 - Lasers/light sources to reduce the *P. acnes* population
 - Blue Light Sources Blu-U (Dusa)
 - Intense Pulsed Light Devices– Quantum/Vasculight/Lumenis One/M22 (Lumenis), Ellipse (DDD), elos Plus(Syneron), BBL/Joule (Sciton), Harmony XL (Alma), Lumecca (Invasix), Isolaz (Solta)
 - Vascular Lasers –Cynergy (Cynosure), V-Beam Perfecta (Candela), N-Lyte (ICN), AdvaTX (Advantix)
 - Short-Pulsed 650 usec 1064 nm Aerolase Neo

Acne Vulgaris

- Blu-U device FDA cleared for inflammatory acne
 - Used originally for ALA-PDT therapy
 - Works for mild to moderate inflammatory acne vulgaris as well
 - 2004 AAD Poster Presentation; J Drugs Dermatol 2004–Gold, Goldman, Rao
 - Blu-U more effective in inflammatory acne lesions than 1% clindamycin solution
 - Safety and efficacy proved

Blue Light/Acne Gold/Goldman



BLU-U Blue Light Photodynamic Therapy



Acne Vulgaris

- Laser/Light technology
 - Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) technology for acne-many systems exist
 - Quantum, VascuLight, Lumenis One, M22 by Lumenis
 - Other systems Harmony by Alma, BBL by Sciton, Isolaz by Solta, Elos Plus by Syneron, Lumecca (Invasix)
 - ClearTouch, SkinStation by Radiancy
 - Ross V (2002 ASLMS) 50% inflammatory acne lesion improvement
 - Elman M, Lebzelter J. Light therapy in the treatment of acne vulgaris. Dermatol Surg 2004; 30: 130-146.
 - 85% > 50% improvement; 15-20% non-responders

Lumenis One – Dr. Li, China Pre





Lumenis One – Dr. Li, China



IPL China Examples



IPL China Examples



Sciton BBL is available in 2 options



BBL module incorporated into JOULE™



BBLs Standalone System

BBL[™] easy to change Smart Filters[™]

- BBL uses Smart Filters[™] allowing for quick and easy adjustment of wavelengths on a single hand piece.
- This allows you to address multiple skin concerns without having to use or change multiple hand pieces.





BBL[™] Pulse Delivery

• Square-wave Energy Delivery

- BBL delivers a pulse to tissue with precise on and off times and controlled irradiance.
- Many systems deliver only single, double or triple pulses with extended low power tails.
- BBL square wave pulsing does not create low energy tail and waste of energy.
- True Pulse Width Control
- BBL utilizes active feedback modulation up to 10 times per pulse width with a wide range of delivery times.
- OLDER technologies simply fire two short pulses with a delay between them to inefficiently simulate longer pulses.



The BroadBand Light Family



BBL Indications per Brand

BBL	FOREVER YOUNG- BBL	FOREVER CLEAR- BBL	FOREVER BARE- BBL	SkinTyte
Correcting Treatment	Anti-Aging Treatment	Acne Treatment	Hair Removal	Skin Tightening Treatment
Pigmented lesions: hyperpigmentation, melasma Cutaneous lesions: warts, scars and striae Vascular lesions: rosacea, portwine stains, hemangiomas, telangiectasias, angiomas, leg veins and venous malformations	Mostly sun-induced indications. Pigmented lesions: dyschromia, ephelides (freckles)	Mild to moderate inflammatory and pustular inflammatory acne vulgaris	Removal of unwanted hair from all skin types, and to effect stable long-term or permanent hair reduction.	Topical heating for the purpose of elevating tissue temperature to initiate the body's natural healing process.

Let our pictures do the talking...



Courtesy of Phillip Chang, MD



Courtesy Paula Hicks, MD



Courtesy of Melody Dyer, DO



Courtesy of Jason Pozner, MD



Courtesy of Kei Negishi, MD



Courtesy of Antonio Campo, MD, PhD

Forever Clear BBL Results





FCBBL | 1 month post 9 tx | courtesy of Brooke Bangart, National Laser institute



FCBBL | 4 months post 4 tx | courteay of Michelle Turley, Savannah Plastic Surgery

Photopneumatic Technology: The Mechanism



•Hand piece is placed on treatment area

- Targets elevated closer to skin's surface
- •Blood concentration reduced

•Melanin concentration reduced

 Light applied to treatment area Targets are safely and painlessly destroyed

Patient Outcomes

Isolaz acne therapy harnesses the clinically proven, unique combination of vacuum extraction, broadband ligh and enhanced topical application

Treatment Outcomes

- Significant and lasting clearance of mild, moderate and severe acne
- Effective acne solution for non-responders to other acne therapies
- Replenished, clearer skin and a more even complexion



How It Works

Isolaz treatments cleanse, purify, and shrink pores while destroying acne causing bacteria for a clearer, more even complexion.



Vacuum tip gently lifts acne impurities and extracts dirt, blackheads, and excess oil from your pores.

PURIFY Isolaz Tip

Broadband light is applied to help destroy acne causing bacteria and reduce sebum production.



Skin care regimens get a kick-start by accessing the deeper layers of your skin. RELEASE Profusion Tip



Skin is released to normal position, and pores are left clean and purified for clearer, replenished skin.

Clinical Studies Weiss & Munavalli

- Reduction of acne lesions began as soon as 2 days with median of 5 days.
- Overall reduction of acne activity evaluated by blinded assessment
- Average reduction:
 - papules 50-60%,
 - pustules 70-80%,
 - comedones 40-50%.
- Inflammatory papules showed reduction in erythema and size but not number at one week.
- At one month, however, a 50% reduction in number inflammatory lesions was noted.
- Pain was judged as minimal by immediate post-treatment survey. No blistering or pigmentation changes were observed.

Gold MH, Biron J. J Drugs Dermatol 2008; 7(2):139-145



Methods: Eleven subjects (7 women) aged 15 to 54 years with skin types 1 to 4 presented with mild to moderate facial acne (defined as 15 or more facial inflammatory or noninflammatory lesions) were recruited to the study. All subjects underwent 4 photopneumatic treatments at 3-week intervals with follow-up visits at 1 and 3 months.

Results: Inflammatory lesion counts continued to decrease for at least 3 months after the final treatment. At 3 months, reductions in lesion counts were significant for both inflammatory (P=.0137) and noninflammatory (P=.0383) lesions. Mean scores between visits consistently dropped sharply from their immediate posttreatment values for pain, erythema, and edema. Nine subjects (82%) were moderately satisfied to very satisfied with treatment.

Conclusion: Results suggest that the photopneumatic device is a safe and effective modality for the treatment of mild to moderate inflammatory and comedonal acne vulgaris.

Clinical Study – Gold and Biron – ASLMS 2008, AAD 2008

- Eleven Subjects, aged 15-54 years of age with mild to moderate acne vulgaris
- Four PPx treatments at 3 week intervals; follow-up at one and three months post last treatment
- Inflammatory acne lesion counts continued to decrease for at least the three months after the last treatment
- At 3 months:
 - Inflammatory lesion counts: 78% reduction (p=0.0137)
 - Non-inflammatory lesion counts: 57.8% reduction (p=0.0383)
 - Pain minimal with treatment
 - 82% moderate to very satisfied

PPx Acne Study



After 4 treatments

PPx Acne Study



After 4 treatments

PPx







Before

Post 1 treatment
J Drugs Dermatol 2009; 8(3):239-241.



ADVA

- Solid-state 589/1319nm
 - ND Yag Diode Crystals
 - No Consumables
- Scanner Hand piece
 - Single spot or fractional
 - 1mm spot size
 - Multi-pattern up to 10x10mm
 - Both wavelengths delivered with the same hand piece



Treatments – 589nm

- Telangiectasia
- Spider veins, both facial and leg
- Rosacea
- Hemangiomas
- Port wine stains
- Venous lakes
- Red or hypertrophic scars
- Melasma
- Hyper pigmentation
- Skin rejuvenation

Treatments 1319nm

- Skin rejuvenation
- Reduction of acne scars
- Reduction in the appearance of pores
- Mild and moderate inflammatory acne vulgaris

Objective

Examine the safety and efficacy of a 589nm solidstate laser used for treatment of facial erythema.

Study performed by Dr. David Goldberg, 2018

Study Design

-- Single-center, prospective cohort of 30 patients

18 years or older

Fitzpatrick type I to IV

Varying degrees of facial erythema

-- 4 full face monthly treatments Follow-up one month after 4th treatment

-- Erythema evaluation by investigator and participant using scale 0 to 4 (0 = no erythema; 4 = severe erythema)

-- Safety assessed by investigator-reported side effects

Treatment Parameters

10-15 J/cm² 46 msec pulse duration Scanning hand piece



Baseline

1 month s/p 4 treatments

Baseline





Investigator assessment:

Baseline erythema gradeFinal erythema grade:Left side:Left side:Right side:Right side:

Patient assessment:

Baseline erythema gradeFinal erythema grade:Left side:Left side:Right side:Right side:

Baseline

1 month s/p 4 treatments Safety

No complications were reported.

Conclusion

A new 589nm solid-state, non-rhodamine dye laser represents a novel approach for the treatment of facial erythema.

ADVATx Laser for Acne



Pre Treatment

Post 2 Treatments

Tx 1: 1st pass: 1319nm, 20 J/cm2, square pattern 10x10mm filling factor, pulse duration 38ms, scan time 2.6s 2nd pass: 589nm, 10 J/cm2, square pattern 10x10mm filling factor, pulse duration 34ms, scan time 3.2s

Tx 2: 1st pass: 1319nm, 22 J/cm2, square pattern 10x10mm filling factor, pulse duration 38ms, scan time 2.7s 2nd pass: 589nm, 12 J/cm2, square pattern 10x10mm filling factor, pulse duration 37ms, scan time 4s

ADVATx Laser for Acne



BEFORE



ADVATx Laser for Acne



BEFORE



AdvaTX – Each Tx 2 weeks apart



Before Tx





Post 2 Txs





AdvaTX Laser Treatment



Before Tx









Background and Objectives for TCRC Study

- Facial acne scarring is a prevalent disease
 - Physical and psychosocial sequelae
- Innovative solid state, dual-wavelength laser investigated
 - 589/1319 nm
 - No consumables
 - No dye kits

Study Designs/Materials/Methods

- 12 patients treated
 - 11 Female 1 Male
 - Fitzpatrick skin types of II and III
 - Acne scars for more than 1 year
- 2 passes, both covering the entire face
 - 1319 nm and subsequently 589 nm
 - 3 sessions, 1 every other week
 - Full face covered in approximately 30 minutes
- Acne scars scored by one physician evaluator
 - ECCA grading scale
 - Before and 2 weeks after the final treatment
 - 3 and 6 month follow-ups after last treatment
- Safety
 - Recording subject discomfort scores
 - Adverse effects

Results

- Fluence
 - 28 J/cm2 +/- 2.4 J/cm2 1319nm
 - 16 J/cm2 +/- 2.9 J/cm2 589 nm
- Baseline mean ECCA was 99 +/- 21
- 42% reduction in ECCA score after 3rd treatment
- One patient did not improve after 3 sessions
- Slight to moderate erythema sometimes observed
- No or minimal burning or stinging was reported
- No crust was observed

ECCA Scale



Before and After



Before and After



Baseline

Post 3 Months

Post 6 Month

Advalight for acne scars



Post 6 Month

Advalight for acne scars



Baseline



Post 6 Month

Treatment of Acne Scaring with a Novel Dual-Wavelength Laser J Cosmetic Dermatol. 2019;18:1290-1293



LightPod Neo

- 650-microsecond technology for up to 255 J/cm2 in a single pulse duration
- More than 50 FDA cleared medical aesthetic indications
- Ability to perform anesthetic, gel & skin contact free treatment on all skin types
- Eliminates pain, burns or adverse effects of the previous generation of lasers
- No costly service contracts



Current treatments of acne: Medications, lights, lasers, and a novel 650- μ s 1064-nm Nd: YAG laser J Cosmet Dermatol 2017:1-16



Neo Treatments Before and After





Before

After 4th Treatment



▶ 1 Month After 4th Treatment







After 3rd Treatment





After 2nd Treatment





Before



Before Treatment Post 2 Treatments – 4 weeks apart



Before Treatment

Post 4 Treatments, 4 Weeks Apart



Before Treatment

Post 1 Treatment – 2 weeks apart



Before Treatment

Post 1 Treatment
Neo Treatments Before and After Photos



Before Treatment

Post 2 Treatments – 4 weeks apart

Neo Treatments Before and After Photos



Before Treatment

Post 11 Treatments – 1 week apart

Neo Treatments Before and After Photos



Before Treatment

Post 11 Treatments – 1 week apart

Patient Satisfaction in a Minimally Invasive Laser Practice with Aerolase

Treatment: Acne Clearance Presenter: Michael Gold, MD



Fluence: 28 j/cm²Pulse Width: 0.6msecSpot Size: 6mmPasses: 3Skin Type: II

Treatment Notes: Mode 8. Patient received two treatments over a 4 week period.

Patient Satisfaction in a Minimally Invasive Laser Practice with Aerolase

Treatment: Acne Clearance Presenter: Michael Gold, MD



BEFORE

AFTER 2nd Tx

Fluence: 28 j/cm²Pulse Width: 0.6msecSpot Size: 6mmPasses: 3Skin Type: II

Treatment Notes: Mode 8. Patient received two treatments over a 4 week period.

Aerolase Before and After Tx



Before Treatment

6 treatments post 13 months

Aerolase Before and After Tx



Before Treatment

6 treatments post 13 months

Aerolase Before and After Tx



Before Treatment

6 treatment post 13 months

TREATMENT OF MODERATE TO SEVERE ACNE AND POST ACNE SCARS WITH 650 MICROSECOND 1064nm LASER COMBINED WITH LOW DOSE ISOTRETINOIN

Authors and Disclosures

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Background and Purpose

It is well documented that using isotretinoin for acne therapy can delay the repair of skin scar tissue and, therefore, the use of laser and phototherapy in patients receiving retinoid therapy is relatively contraindicated.

Traditionally, it is believed that these procedures should be postponed for at least 6-8 months after the end of systemic therapy with isotretinoin.

Modern revision of treatment protocols, safer, more effective lasers, and the transition to lower dosages have made it possible to reduce the likelihood of side effects in combination therapy, which is important for the timeliness of treating post-acne scars and the prevention of their occurrence.

This study was completed to determine the safety, efficacy, and tolerability of a combining a 650 Microsecond 1064nm laser with low dosages of isotretinoin for the treatment of moderate to severe acne and post-acne scars.

Materials and Methods

Patient Selection

- 28 Females and 18 Males aged 18-29, Fitzpatrick Skin Phototypes I-III with moderate to severe acne (up to 20 papulopustular elements) complicated by atrophic scars.
- All patients included underwent genetic analysis revealing the polymorphism of genes Col1A2, MMP3, ESR1, MMP1, MMP7, which can lead to the appearance of scars
- IGA parameters before the rapy averaged 1.8 \pm 0.2 points
- Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) before treatments averaged 10.1± 1.3 points

Treatment Protocol

Treatment Protocol

All patients underwent combination therapy:

- Systemic use of isotretinoin at a low dosage of 0.2 0.3 mg/kg/day for 6 months
- 12 laser procedures performed at 2 week intervals with a 650 microsecond 1064nm laser, pulse duration of 650µsec, fluence of 21 J/cm2, spot diameter of 6mm

Results: IGA Parameters

IGA Parameters



Results: DLQI Parameters

DLQI Parameters













- During the study, it was noted that the resolution of inflammatory elements occurred without scarring
- Increased sensitivity of the skin to laser radiation and the deterioration of the repair process of the skin was not observed
- Tolerability was high

Conclusions

- Use of combination therapy is pathogenetically warranted, especially for patients who are genetically prone to the formation of post-acne scarring
- A 650 microsecond 1064nm laser is effective at stimulating neocollagenesis without the risk of excessive heating of the skin or pain
- Pathological scarring in acne was not observed. Improvement of preexisting acne scars was noticeable.
- Combination therapy of a 650 microsecond 1064nm laser and isotretinoin at a low dosage (0.2-0.3 mg/kg/day) is safe, effective, and tolerable.