

FRAHEL/ FRACTIONAL LASER FOR ACNE SCARRING

Dermatologists at the Brisbane Specialist Acne Clinic specialise in the treatment of acne scars. We combine techniques such as laser resurfacing, TCA cross chemical peels and surgical methods to give our patients the best possible outcomes.



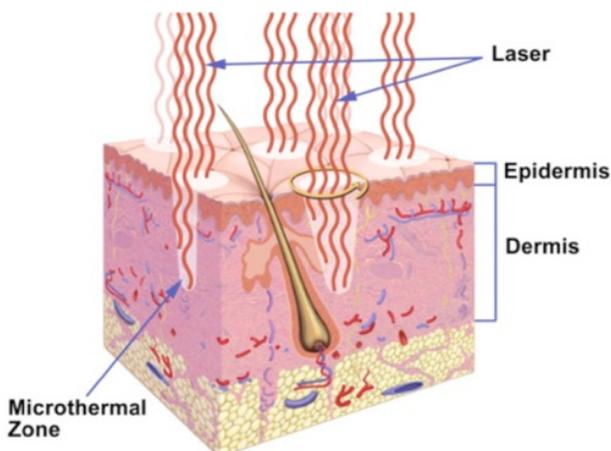
Facts on laser treatment of acne scars

- Fractional lasers such as Fraxel and Profractional are at the forefront of acne scar treatments
- Fractional lasers treat only a 'fraction of skin' which speeds up recovery time and risks for laser skin treatments
- Scar improvements of up to 70% can be seen after 3-4 treatments
- Side effects are minimal and the procedure is very well tolerated

How does Fraxel/ Fractional laser work ?

Fractionated laser treatment (Fraxel, ProFractional) is the latest laser for acne scarring. The laser produces thousands of tiny treatment zones in the treated areas. Each zone is the diameter of a shaft of hair, however these columns extend deep into the middle layer of the skin, where scars lie. Lasers target the scarred areas and old collagen, but also leave areas of healthy tissue to regenerate. This fractional treatment allows your skin to heal much more quickly than if the entire surface was treated at once.

Fractional laser treatment means less patient downtime and side effects, but still delivers great results.



How do we perform laser treatments for acne scars?

Laser procedures are performed in one of our three laser suites at Westside Dermatology. All scar revision procedures are performed by specialist Dermatologists, assisted by a laser nurse. Local anaesthetic cream is applied 45 minutes prior to treatment. Just before the procedure, the cream is wiped off and cleansed with an antibacterial solution. Eyeshields are worn during the treatment. A computer guided scanner is placed over the treated area and the laser is applied. The procedure takes 15 to 30 minutes to perform.

Is laser treatment painful?

Laser treatment is well tolerated in the majority of patients. We often combine some mild sedation as well as numbing cream to ensure that patients are comfortable throughout laser treatments. As a guide, the majority of patients rate the pain as 2 out of 10 on the pain scale.

How long will I take to recover after laser treatment of acne scars?

Immediately after laser the skin is red, swollen and feels like sunburn. Simple panadol can alleviate any pain, and ice packs can cool the treated skin. Downtime or recovery time will depend on several factors including the extent and depth of laser treatment. As a guide, recovery times range from 3 days to 7 days. This will be discussed in detail prior to any laser treatments.

FRAXEL/ FRACTIONAL LASER FOR ACNE SCARRING cont'd



Significant acne scarring prior to treatment.



Immediately following one light pass of Fractional Laser. Fractionation, treats a specified percentage of skin. Treatments can be non-aggressive with quick recovery times.



Three days after laser. Complete healing is seen at day 6. Swelling has decreased. Best results are seen 2 - 3 months after treatment - the time it takes for new collagen to reform. 2 - 4 treatments are recommended. Dr Davin Lim



Acne scars - deep scarring mixed with boxcar scars.



Two months after Micropeel combined with Fractional laser. Dr Davin S. Lim

FRAXEL/ FRACTIONAL LASER FOR ACNE SCARRING cont'd

How many acne scar laser treatments will I need?

The number of acne laser scar treatments will vary for patients depending on the depth and types of scars. As a guide we recommend 2 - 3 laser treatments for the best results. These treatments are spaced at intervals of 2 - 3 months apart. Your laser dermatologist will give you an estimate of expected improvement with each treatment.

Who performs laser treatment for acne scars?

All laser treatments are performed by specialist Dermatologists with years of experience. Acne scar specialists train as doctors, then undergo additional training as Skin Specialists (Dermatologists). They undertake subspecialist training in scar revision techniques and laser surgery. Expertise, experience and training ensure patients are in the best possible hands.



What are the costs for acne laser scar treatments?

Fraxel/ Fractional laser \$750 - \$1200 per treatment.

Total laser resurfacing + Fraxel/ Fractional
\$1500 - 2900 per treatment.

(For fractional laser 2 - 4 treatments advised. Treatments spaced 8 - 12 weeks apart. Costs dependent on the extent of scarring depth and area. Full laser resurfacing 1 - 2 treatments recommended. Medicare rebate applies.)

Does Medicare provide any assistance?

Medicare does NOT provide any rebate for Fraxel/ Fractional laser treatments, however for Full Laser Resurfacing, a rebate does apply. Scar revision procedures performed by specialists will carry a rebate.

What is the first step towards fixing acne scars?

The first step can be a daunting process for many patients. Our specialist Dermatologist will assess your acne scars and provide solutions based upon individual assessment. Rest assured, the experience, training and equipment used at Westside Dermatology will ensure the best possible outcomes for all our patients.

Call us directly on **07 3871 3437** to make an appointment, or to discuss issues regarding the referral process.

SPECIALIST INSIGHTS ON
LASER TREATMENTS FOR ACNE SCARS



Fractional lasers such as Fraxel and Profractional have provided a safe and effective means of treating acne scarring in all skin types. Downtime for the patient can be tailored accordingly. I often combine techniques such as subcision, TCA chemical peels and Full resurfacing for best patient outcomes.

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