



LASER HAIR REMOVAL How it Works and What to Expect

Since all hair removal lasers target melanin, the *best* candidates for laser hair removal are individuals with light skin and dark hair. A dark hair contains melanin and has a plethora of melanin surrounding the dermal papilla, or hair root. The melanin granules absorb the laser energy, which in turn produces a thermal effect. This heating action is what damages the hair follicle. The projected number of treatments needed is 4 - 7.

When you are ready for your treatment, the hair in that area will be clipped or shaved off. We want as much of the laser energy as possible to be absorbed by the melanin near the hair root. If we left hair on the surface of your skin, the laser energy would vaporize it and we would lose too much of the laser energy on the surface of the skin.

Within 7-21 days, the treated hair will fall out. It will look as if it is growing, but be patient. Deeper, darker hairs will take more time to fall out than shallower hairs. You may shave or clip those hairs if needed before they fall out, but *do not* use your tweezers and try to pull them out. Let them take their own time to completely dry up and fall out. You may also bleach treated hairs while you are waiting for them to fall out.

You should wait 4-6 weeks after your last tanning session before you start your laser hair removal treatments. The melanin in your skin seems to be 'activated' when you tan. Activated melanin will heat more quickly when exposed to the laser energy, and therefore afford a higher potential for burning the skin or causing pigment changes.

You should plan your laser treatments 4-6 weeks after your last electrolysis treatment or waxing session. You will receive the most economic benefit with laser hair removal if you have a high density of hair growing in the desired treatment area.

Urban Allure uses an alexandrite laser called **GentleLASE Plus**. The FDA has cleared this laser for "Permanent Hair Reduction", and after years of experience with this laser, we consider it to be a permanent therapy.

As with any personal service of this type, there are always risks involved. As with traditional electrolysis, the risks are hyper-pigmentation, hypo-pigmentation, and burning. Hyper-pigmentation is a darkening of the skin, much like a tan. It could last anywhere from a few days to a few months. Hypo-pigmentation is just the opposite. It is a lightening or bleaching of the skin. If the laser energy is too high, it could produce a burn. If it was intense enough, it could scar. Our staff at Urban Allure has had experience with the GentleLASE Plus since 2001, and has had no significant problems to report.

The treatment is described by many as being similar to being 'snapped' by a rubber band. Treatment is so fast that most people do not mind what little discomfort they feel. Upper lips can be done in one minute, both underarms in 3 - 5 minutes, and a bikini line can be treated in 10-15 minutes! Hair removal has never been so fast.

The GentleLASE has 4 spot sizes that range from 8mm to 18mm. The 18mm is the largest spot size of any laser on the market today, and makes treatment fast, and effective. The GentleLASE can fire a pulse every second! The cooling system is second to none. It is the only laser on the market that delivers a cryogenic spray to protect your skin. We find it superior to messy gels or contact cooling, which cannot be as precise with each pulse.

Just after treatment, your skin will be warm, and possibly flushed with color. You may also notice some erythema, or puffiness. We will apply a topical lotion or gel to your skin to soothe and cool it. You should avoid rubbing or scrubbing the area for 24 hours. Pat or gently cleanse the area instead. We want you to treat your skin as if you had just received a mild sunburn. As we perform your treatment, you will see obvious skin response that will be your indication that a good treatment has been obtained.

Treatments are delivered 4 weeks apart for facial areas and 6 weeks apart for all other areas. We will schedule your next treatment each time you visit the clinic in order for you to receive optimum results. Even though you may not see hairs growing in the area when you return for your next treatment, there are hairs growing under your skin that you will not be able to visibly see.

Urban Allure uses only state of the art equipment and highly trained Registered Nurses to operate our equipment. They all have extensive training and experience in the latest Laser Hair Removal technology. You are in the best possible hands for this therapy! Please visit our website at www.urbanalluresf.com to obtain more information about the Urban Allure and the treatments we have to offer you.

Dr. Joseph Franks our supervising physician who clears all of our patients for laser treatments.

You should always call or email us with any of your questions. We are here to help you eliminate your unwanted hair as quickly and effortlessly as possible. This new technology is truly exciting. Let us show you how to free yourself of unwanted hair at the speed of light!