

Skin Typing & Client Assessment

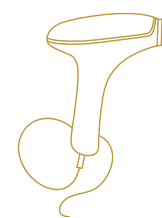
Skin Typing & Client Assessment

Accurate assessment is essential for safe, effective, and customized laser treatments.

Why Skin Typing Matters

- Determines safe treatment settings
- Reduces risk of burns and complications
- Guides wavelength selection
- Impacts treatment outcomes

Skin typing helps providers understand how a client's skin will respond to laser energy. Different skin types absorb and react to energy differently, making proper assessment critical for safety and results.



Tip: Treat the skin you see — not the treatment you want to perform

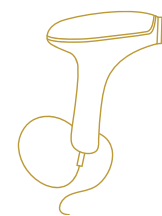
Fitzpatrick Scale

Fitzpatrick Skin Types (I–VI)

Classifies skin based on response to sun exposure and melanin content

- Type I: Very fair, always burns, never tans
- Type II: Fair, burns easily, tans minimally
- Type III: Medium, sometimes burns, gradually tans
- Type IV: Olive, rarely burns, tans easily
- Type V: Brown, very rarely burns, tans easily
- Type VI: Dark brown/black, never burns

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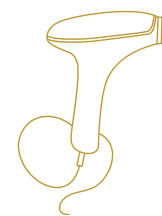
Tip: Higher Fitzpatrick = higher risk of pigment complications

Why Fitzpatrick Matters in Laser

Fitzpatrick & Laser Safety

- More melanin = more energy absorption
- Increased risk of hyperpigmentation or burns
- Requires adjusted settings
- May require different wavelengths

Melanin competes for laser energy. In darker skin types, more caution must be used to avoid unintended damage to surrounding tissue.



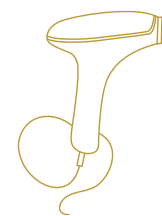
Tip: When in doubt, start conservative

Client Consultation

Client Consultation Essentials

- Medical history and medications
- Recent sun exposure or tanning
- Skin concerns and treatment goals
- Previous laser or aesthetic treatments
- Hormonal or underlying conditions (PCOS, etc.)

A thorough consultation ensures the client is a safe candidate and helps guide treatment planning. Skipping this step increases risk and reduces treatment effectiveness.



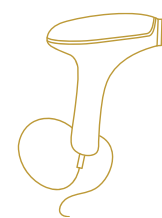
Tip: The consultation is where safety begins

Contraindications

Contraindications to Laser Treatment

- Active infection or open wounds
- Photosensitizing medications
- Recent sun exposure
- Pregnancy (depending on treatment)
- History of keloid scarring
- Recent chemical peels or resurfacing treatments”

Identifying contraindications helps prevent complications and ensures appropriate treatment decisions are made.



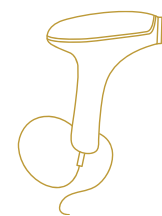
Tip: When in doubt, do NOT treat

Treatment Planning

Treatment Planning Basics

- Match treatment to skin type
- Select appropriate wavelength
- Adjust fluence and pulse duration
- Consider treatment area and condition

Effective treatments require thoughtful planning based on the client's skin type, condition, and goals. No two treatments should be exactly the same.



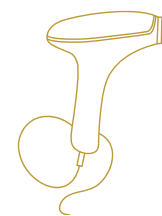
Tip: Customization = better outcomes

Summary

Key Takeaways

- Skin typing guides safe treatment
- Fitzpatrick scale helps assess risk
- Consultation is critical
- Contraindications must be identified
- Treatment plans should be customized

Safe outcomes begin with proper assessment and planning. based on the client's skin type, condition, and goals. No two treatments should be exactly the same.



Tip: Assessment determines outcome