

Combining Lipolysis with MedSculpt Improves Results

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor



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Body contouring with both the MedSculpt system from General Project (Florence, Italy), and injection lipolysis reduces side effects, minimizes patient discomfort and improves outcomes. Roy Shapiro, M.D. is impressed by the versatility of the computer-assisted massage of the MedSculpt in conjunction with injection lipolysis. Having performed nearly 5,000 treatments over the past year, “we have determined that in over 75% of cases, the combination of injection lipolysis and MedSculpt achieves far better and earlier results, compared to injection lipolysis alone.”

“I was first interested in seeing how the MedSculpt would work as a stand-alone device for reducing cellulite,” said Dr. Shapiro, a retired radiologist who is now the managing member of Shapiro Group Aesthetics, LLC, with four locations (New York, New Jersey, Las Vegas, Nevada and Scottsdale, Arizona, U.S.). “But there were also occasions when nodules and pooling occurred with mesotherapy. We found that vigorous massage post treatment resulted in more uniform outcome and better endpoints.”

Ultrasound is another feature of the MedSculpt. “Prior to injection lipolysis, we schedule a full MedSculpt treatment the same day,” Dr. Shapiro said. Patients begin with the micromechanical massage, followed by ultrasound. About 30 minutes later, injection lipolysis commences. “We then follow-up with another five minutes of ultrasound because ultrasound decreases the very superficial inflammation and reduces some of the pain related to the injection,” Dr. Shapiro conveyed.

With the combination therapy, Dr. Shapiro recommends a minimum of 12 treatment sessions: two sessions a week over a six week period. “Injection lipolysis alone is not a painless treatment. We are targeting an inflammatory response, so people are uncomfortable when they leave the office,” he said. “However, by adding the ultrasound effect of the MedSculpt post treatment, there is slightly less pain. The MedSculpt also makes treatment more

enjoyable, because prior to injection the micromechanical massage and ultrasound allow patients to become very comfortable and ready for the injection.”

Combining modalities also achieves immediate results, largely due to the injection lipolysis. “Within the first ten days to two weeks post-inflammation, patients will start seeing some remarkable results,” Dr. Shapiro observed. Furthermore, long after the injections, the MedSculpt provides “additional results. There is better tone of the tissue and no appearance of cellulite. In contrast, when we do injection lipolysis only, occasionally it exacerbates the appearance of cellulite.”

After completing six weeks of combination therapy, patients are encouraged to schedule an additional series of three injections, spaced two weeks apart, in conjunction with the MedSculpt. This may be followed by MedSculpt treatments alone, one week per month. “We continue to improve the appearance of the tissue, so there is no recurrence of cellulite,” Dr. Shapiro noted. “Of all the modalities out there, I find the MedSculpt the most enduring and comfortable treatment. Patients actually ask for it when they come in for other procedures.”

Older patients, who are not candidates for injection lipolysis, still achieve a significant reduction in overall size of treated areas when using the MedSculpt by itself. They can lose between 2 cm to 3 cm in circumference over a three month period, according to Dr. Shapiro. “We also introduce the MedSculpt free to patients. This gives us a better internal referral for injection lipolysis,” he said. “Who doesn’t like a nice massage? And the ultrasound is uniquely effective for pain management. The MedSculpt is definitely an effective alternative to liposuction. Our staff has also found this system the easiest to use.”