

Lux1440 Offers Non-Ablative Options for a Range of Tx Indications

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor



E. Victor Ross, M.D.
Director
Cosmetic and Laser Dermatology Unit
Scripps Clinic
San Diego, CA

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Before Tx



One month after Lux1440 Tx

Photos courtesy of E. Victor Ross, M.D.

Palomar Medical Technologies (Burlington, Mass.), an original developer of fractional lasers, has released the Lux1440 Nd:YAG, a non-ablative, fractional laser for use on the StarLux 500 platform. This new handpiece creates hundreds of micro-columns of coagulation and a rapid healing response for indications ranging from mild skin resurfacing to scar remodeling.

Numerous published studies already document the Lux1540 laser's efficacy. Now, with the Lux1440 non-ablative fractional handpiece, Palomar has expanded the options available to the aesthetic practitioner.

“The Lux1440 is very fast, so you can cover a lot of ground quickly. For example, you can cover an entire face with settings energetic enough to achieve a reasonable result in about 15 minutes,” noted E. Victor Ross, M.D., director of the Laser and Cosmetic Dermatology Center at Scripps Clinic in San Diego, Calif. “Treatment is also relatively painless. With just numbing cream and a little cold air, the pain is roughly 2, on a scale of 1 to 10. Patients tolerate the procedure very well. In addition, recovery is fast. Patients are red for a few days. They develop a very light, branny scale that comes off the skin. However, these dots are almost invisible. Overall, healing is very inconspicuous.”

Dr. Ross has found these non-ablative lasers most helpful for pigmentation issues and fine lines when using the 15 mm treatment tip. “Major skin abnormalities include fine lines on the face, as well as fine lines, texture and tone changes on the arms and legs. Since this laser is so fast, you can also treat the neck and chest. One of the problems we have with some of the other non-ablative fractional technologies

is that it takes so long to perform a procedure. Hence, everyone sort of fatigues, including the physician. In contrast, the Lux1440 allows you to move briskly, while providing a fair amount of coverage. You can attain about 15% to 20% coverage on a chest in about 20 minutes. Some of the other technologies we use take approximately 30% to 50% longer.”

Dr. Ross normally recommends three treatment sessions, spaced roughly one month apart. “Patients can expect about 30% to 60% improvement in pigment, while fine lines should improve about 50%,” he reported. Dr. Ross has also had some success using the 15 mm tip for striae, typically consisting of three sessions at six to eight weeks apart. “We expect about a 30% to 40% improvement, depending on the individual patient,” he said.

Palomar's non-ablative handpieces also have an optional 10 mm tip for “relatively deep treatment and for some scar correction,” Dr. Ross said. “I've used this tip for pathologies such as deeper wrinkles and deeper acne scars.” For deep scar remodeling, Dr. Ross suggests five to six treatments, one to two months apart. “This protocol should result in a 50% improvement in these scars; however, results will vary from patient to patient and from scar to scar.”

Patients appreciate the results of non-ablative therapies, according to Dr. Ross. “You achieve nice results, with minimal trauma to the skin. Patients have been very happy. These handpieces are also very versatile because you can use them for many indications: acne scars, pigment, melasma, fine scarring, traumatic scarring, surgical scarring and textural improvement.”