

Med Sculpt Provides Effective Stand-Alone or Combination Therapy

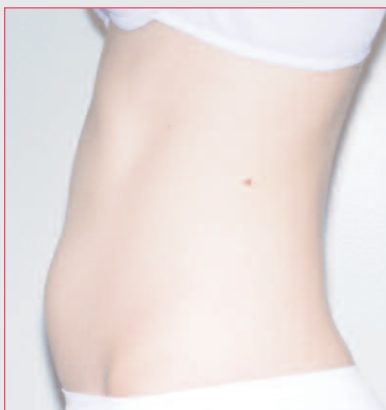
By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor



Mark B. Taylor, M.D., F.A.A.D.

Director
Gateway Aesthetic Institute and
Laser Center
Salt Lake City, UT

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Before Tx



After three Med Sculpt and three lipodissolve treatments
Photos courtesy of Mark B. Taylor, M.D., F.A.A.D.

Whether used as stand-alone treatment or as part of combination therapy for body contouring, the Med Sculpt from General Project (Florence, Italy) is helping patients to achieve their desired goals. The Med Sculpt system features two separate handpieces: one for low-level ultrasound and the other for powerful suction massage.

“Using the ultrasound may stimulate the body to mobilize some fat,” noted Mark B. Taylor, M.D., F.A.A.D., dermatologist and director of Gateway Aesthetic Institute and Laser Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, who often combines the Med Sculpt with other treatments such as lipodissolve or red light-emitting diode (LED) devices.

“The wavelength of red LED devices has been shown to release fat,” Dr. Taylor advised. Treating with red LED prior to Med Sculpt may accomplish some body shaping. “Several studies have shown that delivering about four minutes of intense red light causes adipocytes to release some of their fat. By applying massage and ultrasound to this fat and moving it toward the liver, you can actually change the shape.”

Dr. Taylor also feels that Med Sculpt is excellent to alternate with lipodissolve therapy. “Med Sculpt treatments follow lipodissolve injections by at least a week. Once you have injected lipodissolve patients are too tender to undergo body massaging right away.”

Occasionally Dr. Taylor will also employ a long pulse Nd:YAG laser to heat the skin, followed immediately by a Med Sculpt treatment. “With the Nd:YAG we are able to heat both the dermis and some of the subcutaneous fat very efficiently and quickly – to 42° C plus,” he said. “By combining the Nd:YAG with lipodissolve, red LED

and Med Sculpt, you have the best of all worlds.”

At Dr. Taylor’s office, about 50% of patients opt for stand-alone treatment with the Med Sculpt, while the other 50% have Med Sculpt combined with another form of therapy.

Med Sculpt alone is similar to endermologie, but “the ultrasound portion gives it an extra boost,” Dr. Taylor conveyed. “Treatment feels like a deep tissue massage. It’s pretty comfortable – no one complains about pain. The ultrasound portion is mild treatment, whereas the massage stretches the bands that cause cellulite. Med Sculpt is very effective for evening out lumps and bumps following liposuction.”

For solo treatment with the Med Sculpt, Dr. Taylor recommends at least ten sessions (two or three per week), resulting in temporary improvement in cellulite typically lasting a few months, possibly longer. “Patients enjoy Med Sculpt treatment and there is virtually no risk. We use it on a regular basis and our patients are pleased with the results we are attaining.”

A treatment session with Med Sculpt on one area, such as the abdomen, takes about 20 minutes. Typically, ultrasound is applied first, followed by suction massage. “It’s important to manage expectations,” Dr. Taylor said. “You need to give patients realistic goals for exercise and nutrition.”

A new version of the Med Sculpt featuring a dual ultrasound handpiece is being developed by General Project, according to Dr. Taylor. “This will allow the company to branch into the therapeutic range and provide more aggressive body shaping. I suspect this new device will be approved soon.”