

# Sciton ProLipo Laser Features Ideal Technology for Laser-Assisted Lipolysis

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor



Roger Hogue, M.D.  
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Before Tx



After ProLipo Tx

Photos courtesy of Roger Hogue, M.D.

Sciton, Inc.'s (Palo Alto, Calif.) ProLipo™ has gained FDA clearance to perform laser-assisted lipolysis with up to 20 W of power. According to Roger Hogue, M.D., a laser surgeon in private practice in Maple Grove, Minn., "ProLipo is the ideal laser to perform laser-assisted lipolysis (LAL). It is technologically advanced, with the safest, most suitable wavelength (1064 nm) for performing this treatment," he said. "My experience is that the 1064 nm wavelength provides a higher margin of safety at a higher power compared to the 1320 nm laser wavelength."

Laser energy transmitted to the fatty tissue, minimizes mechanical trauma to this tissue. The open source platform also uses non-proprietary laser fibers, which can accommodate a 1,000 micron orb-tip fiber. "The 1,000 micron fiber is the ideal laser fiber for LAL, not the smaller diameter 600 micron fiber with a sharp (transverse cut) tip," Dr. Hogue explained. For the same power settings, the fluence at the tip of a 1,000 micron fiber is two and one-half times less than the fluence from a 600 micron fiber tip.

Ideal patients for LAL are healthy overall with good dietary habits. Candidates also have localized adiposity areas that are unresponsive to diet and exercise. In addition, the patient is appropriately motivated for localized fat removal and committed to the tumescent anesthesiologic technique, "which is the safest technique for performing LAL and liposuction," Dr. Hogue advised. "Fluid overload from infused intravenous fluid which can lead to pulmonary edema can be avoided by using the true tumescent technique, which uses neither intravenous sedation nor general anesthesia."

Similarly, the ideal surgeon for LAL understands the laser technology, as well as the benefits and limitations of this procedure. "The surgeon should be

appropriately trained in performing LAL and tumescent liposuction," Dr. Hogue explained. But patient safety is the most important consideration – the ideal surgical facility for this procedure is an outpatient setting such as a private medical practice. "LAL may be appropriately performed using the tumescent technique in combination with tumescent liposuction in an office based setting," Dr. Hogue noted. "The ideal surgical facility does not rely on anesthesia services or a hospital setting."

Liposuction procedures are safest when performed in less than three hours, according to Dr. Hogue. "The tumescent technique in a patient that is awake is not nearly as 'time-duration risk inherent' as liposuction performed using systemic anesthesia," he said. The ideal surgical outcome for LAL is devoid of surgical complications, achieves excellent cosmetic surgical results, minimal post-operative pain and bruising and patient satisfaction. "LAL has the highest patient satisfaction rating among all cosmetic surgery procedures," Dr. Hogue said.

Laser destruction of fat cells within the fat space is just one benefit of LAL. Improved appearance of cellulite and/or stretch marks, smoothing of liposuction tunnels, blending of liposuction treated and non-treated areas and skin tightening are other advantages. Furthermore, there should be an improvement in hemostasis and post-operative recovery time when LAL is added versus tumescent liposuction performed alone.

"Liposuction is still the number one cosmetic surgical procedure in the U.S. and has been for years running," Dr. Hogue observed. "LAL is sure to keep liposuction as the top cosmetic surgery procedure for 2008. ProLipo delivers the fastest procedure times for laser-assisted lipolysis and is affordably priced."