

CO2 (Ultrapulse) Laser treatment

- The overall response rate to Ultrapulse CO2 laser is very good but varies from person to person and *cannot be guaranteed*
- Downtime may vary but is commonly around 5 – 7 days for the face with a further period of redness afterwards which lasts from 1 – 4 weeks in most
- Many conditions require multiple treatments, most have between 1 – 3 treatments
- Deep lines and wrinkles, and gross skin laxity will not be addressed by CO2 laser treatment
- Treatment can be uncomfortable, and minimised with local anaesthetic cream, oral analgesics and Entonox gas (***it is important you have a driver to take you home after treatment***)
- All patients must attend for review on the second day after treatment
- After treatment possible effects include:
 - Redness, scabbing, crusting are seen in all
 - Moisture and oozing is usually present for the first 1 – 3 days
 - Swelling is present in all, and will often be marked
 - Acne breakouts can occur
 - Temporary increase in pigmentation (especially in darker or olive skin types); pigment fading cream is often prescribed after treatment
 - Itching can be present after treatment and can last for some time
 - Ongoing redness is present in a minority of persons – this may last some months
 - Rare side effects include – infection, scarring, permanent increase in pigment
- Treatment is not recommended if pregnant or breastfeeding