

# Lasering Offers Versatile Fractional Resurfacing Device

BY BOB KRONEMYER, ASSOCIATE EDITOR



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The SLIM MiXto SX is a new fractional skin resurfacing CO<sub>2</sub> laser from Lasering S.r.l (Modena, Italy) that offers versatility, physician control and reduced patient discomfort. “This laser not only functions as a traditional CO<sub>2</sub> resurfacing laser, but has fractional capability as well,” said Daniel Cassuto, M.D., a professor of plastic surgery at the University of Catania in Catania, Italy. “I normally don’t need to use any anesthesia when I perform fractional resurfacing in a mild-to-moderate intensity.”

Even the traditional CO<sub>2</sub> component of the laser at a superficial setting “can be tolerated without any anesthesia because the scanner incorporates a special technology that avoids the accumulation of too much heat in the same spot,” Dr. Cassuto noted. Treatment is also tolerable due to a spot size of only 300 microns. “Another well known CO<sub>2</sub> fractional laser has a spot size measuring 1300 microns,” he added.

Dr. Cassuto explained that the SLIM MiXto SX CO<sub>2</sub> laser is highly versatile because “you can regulate both the depth of penetration and the amount of heat delivered beyond the ablation spot. The procedure is clean – gels or dyes are not required. You only need to wash and dry the skin before treatment.”

Treating the entire face in the fractional mode takes about 20 minutes, whereas the whole neck area takes about 15 minutes. “Treatment is also safe for hands and the chest area,” Dr. Cassuto conveyed. “If some areas require deeper treatment during the same sitting, you can easily switch to traditional resurfacing with a touch of a button.” Moreover, any growth (e.g. skin tag) can be ablated by easily switching to a traditional surgical CO<sub>2</sub> laser feature, followed by skin resurfacing.

Some patients are pleased with only one session of fractional resurfacing.

“There is an incredible improvement in skin texture and color, and mild smoothing of deeper acne scars and deeper wrinkles. Very superficial defects can disappear after one session,” Dr. Cassuto observed. “However, deeper wrinkles and deeper acne scars may require two or three sessions, spaced one month apart.”

Dr. Cassuto has successfully treated Fitzpatrick skin types I through V with the SLIM MiXto SX CO<sub>2</sub> laser. “We don’t have patients with skin type VI in my part of the world,” Dr. Cassuto said. “Treatment is perfectly safe. I have had no cases of post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation because only 20% of the skin is ablated on each pass, so you don’t really cause any wide damage that can result in scarring or hyperpigmentation.”



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Most patients require only one pass. “The heat delivered, which eventually results in new collagen formation, is much more diffused. It is actually applied to the whole surface,” Dr. Cassuto pointed out.

After the procedure, patients experience a burning sensation on the skin that lasts between 30 minutes and three hours. “Patients also have a sun tanned look they can apply makeup over,” Dr. Cassuto said. “At the highest intensity of treatment, downtime can last up to five days for the face, seven days for the neck and ten days for the chest and hands. Of my 65 cases to date, everyone has been enthusiastic. The laser is much more cost-effective than competing systems. In my hands, I believe the Slim MiXto SX CO<sub>2</sub> laser is the best fractional device currently on the market.”