



LASERS

HOW TO USE FRACTIONAL CO₂ LASER FOR SCARS IN DARKER SKIN TYPES

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Most common scar conditions dermatosurgeons treat in their practice are acne scars, hypertrophic scars, keloids and burn scars. With wider availability of lasers and energy-based devices, many conditions where quality, alignment or proportion of collagen, elastin in tissue is disturbed and where selective dermal ablation leading to its renewal may alter the pathology are treated using various kinds of lasers. Thickness or depth, contour, vascularity and pigment are key parameters targeted in laser scar reduction. Lasers have role in all the phases of life cycle of scar from formation till recurrence. Deep Fractional CO₂ lasers have evolved as superior and safer option. While generalized collagen tightening of scar affected skin is achieved by most of fractional devices, scar shouldering is required for deeper scars like icepick scars and boxcar scars.

Lasers are one of the adjuvant therapies for scars and must be combined with established therapies like pressure, intralesional injections, subcision for superior results.

