

What To Expect: Erbium Laser

Prior to treatment, you will usually have a local anaesthetic to numb the area, either by injection or topical cream.

The laser operator will then precisely remove the damaged superficial layer of skin, layer by layer, until fresh, undamaged skin is left.

The wounds resulting from the ablative laser can be quite confronting but will usually heal predictably and with good outcomes.

The areas treated will appear as a raw, oozing, bleeding surface – this is completely normal.

The wounds are usually left open, and a thin layer of Vaseline or Stratamed will be applied by staff. If rubbing or bleeding may be a problem, the wounds will be covered with a simple dressing..

You will need to wash the wounds regularly during the day and apply a thin layer of Vaseline or Stratamed (available from Brighton Day Surgery)

Do not apply active skincare products or makeup until the wounds are completely healed.

Wounds on the face will heal in approximately 7 days, and wounds on the body in 7-21 days. The healed surfaces will appear pink.

The fresh, pink appearance of the skin will fade over time (weeks to months). You should protect the skin from the sun with clothing and a high protection sunscreen (SPF 50+).

The final appearance of the area is typically slightly paler than the untreated skin.



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