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## FRACTIONAL CO2 LASER AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

### **Day of the treatment:**

- You will experience a burning sensation that may last several hours
- The treatment area may have a "sunburn appearance" during the first day and a fine scale will begin to form

### **Skincare following the treatment:**

- Wash face twice daily using tap water or distilled water (if on well water) and a gentle cleanser
- Gently blot face with a clean towel or gauze
- Once face is dry, apply a petroleum-based product such as Vaseline or Aquaphor multiple times per day for the first several days following treatment, after several days you may reduce petroleum jelly application to twice daily until completely healed

### **What to expect during the healing process (1-2 weeks):**

- A fine scab will be formed in the treatment area, giving a feeling similar to sandpaper, this promotes the healing process, do not scrub, pick or exfoliate this off, let your body naturally slough this skin off
- Normal pinpoint bleeding may occur following treatment, gently pat areas dry
- It is normal to experience swelling, apply ice packs to the treatment area 10-15 minutes at a time several times a day for the first 2-3 days following the treatment
- Sleeping slightly elevated with 2-3 pillows may reduce swelling of treatment area
- If you have a history of cold sores, please continue taking antiviral medication as directed
- Over the counter Tylenol (Acetaminophen) or Advil (Ibuprofen) can help with pain and inflammation, please take as directed
- If experiencing dryness of the eyes, over the counter eye drops will help with lubrication
- The healing process will take 1-2 weeks to complete, it is advisable to take several days at home to recover following the procedure
- Do not use sauna, swimming pool, hot tub or exercise for at least 4 days
- Redness may last up to several weeks following the procedure; this is normal and will fade over time as collagen is rebuilding
- Reduce sun exposure as much as possible during this time, as your skin will be very sensitive, once your skin has healed it is recommended to use SPF 30 or higher when going outside
- Do not wear makeup until completely healed, make sure to clean makeup brushes and sponges prior to using makeup
- You may resume your normal skin care regimen after you are completely healed (at least 2 weeks after the procedure)

### **One month following procedure:**

- Follow up appointment with our office to evaluate the treatment results

Please call our office 941-926-2300 with any questions or concerns!