

The uRepublic Guide to Skin Tyte

Skin Tyte uses the photo-rejuvenating effects of Broadband light (BBL) which is similar to a laser. The difference is that this method uses a range of infrared wavelengths instead of the single wavelength characteristic of lasers. Special Skin Tyte filters allow tailoring of specific frequencies or wavelengths to target selected deeper skin structures.

Photo-rejuvenation using the infrared range can also be used to heat the collagen layer selectively, which produces contraction or tightening of the skin around lax areas such as the face, neck, arms and abdomen. It's a procedure that's safe for all skin types.

What is the difference between IPL/ BBL and Lasers?

Lasers use a single wavelength to deliver the energy to skin targets, whereas IPL or BBL uses a spectrum of wavelengths. Lasers have a reputation of precision and power, and are established modalities in cosmetic dermatology. And while early IPL/ BBL were dogged by technical and procedural issues that limited its effectiveness, later generation IPL/ BBL are at least as good if not better than their Laser counterparts. Not surprisingly, IPL/ BBL and Lasers share a similar side effect profile.

What can Skin Tyte do for me?

Skin tightening

- Subtle tightening of face, jaw-line, jowls, chin and neck
- Other areas – arms and abdomen

Skin Tyte is not a substitute for a face or neck lift, or abdominoplasty, and results may vary from person to person.

It combines well with other complexion-refining procedures such as BBL photorejuvenation, Profractional and Sellas to achieve a more striking rejuvenative effect.

How does Skin Tyte compare with Radiofrequency devices (Thermage, DermaRF) for skin tightening?

All these devices work by heating the collagen layer of the skin to about 65°C. However Skin Tyte uses infrared to achieve this, while DermaRF uses radiofrequency energy. The efficacy and side effect profile is expected to be similar. All these skin tightening devices can achieve mild skin tightening only, and do not replace a surgical face or neck lift in patients with more advanced skin laxity.

What does the procedure involve?

No anaesthetic is required as there is a cooling plate that protects the skin and also reduces the treatment discomfort. Protective eyewear is worn during the procedure.

A cool gel will be applied to the skin to facilitate skin contact of the handpiece. When the device fires, there is a series of multiple flashes in succession that progressively heats the skin. The entire area is treated 2–3 times. The final few flashes may be associated with some discomfort but this is generally well tolerated. There is no post-treatment discomfort.

What happens after treatment and how long will the results last?

The treated area may look slightly red for a few minutes but most patients will have no redness or swelling after treatment. Make-up may be applied if desired. On rare occasions, there may be slight redness and inflammation that may persist for a few hours.

There is often immediate evidence of collagen contraction after the first treatment. Patients often report seeing the difference straight away. Over time, there is further collagen remodelling, and results will continue to improve over the next 3–6 months.

Up to 3 treatments are necessary for best results, usually spaced a month apart. The results should last at least 6–12 months, possibly longer. Maintenance treatment at least once a year may be required.

During this time concurrent treatment with other modalities such as photorejuvenation or fractional resurfacing, will further enhance the overall results.

What are the unwanted side effects of Skin Tyte?

Side effects are rare.

However, the following may theoretically occur:

- Burns to the skin leading to redness
- Alteration in pigment – darker or lighter – the alteration in pigment may either be temporary, or rarely, permanent
- Scarring and indentations may occur as a result of burns (extremely rare)

Is everyone suitable for Skin Tyte?

We do not treat:

- Pregnant or breast-feeding women
- Children under age 18 without parental consent
- Current significant skin disease / infections such as cold sores at the site of treatment
- History of light sensitivity including connective tissue disorders, lupus, porphyria
- Any emotional, mental or medical condition that may impair judgment