

eCO2's Power and Finesse

Enable Broad Range of Resurfacing Applications



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Periorbital area before Tx



Periorbital area nine months after eCO2 treatments

Photos courtesy of David B. Vasily, M.D., F.A.A.D.

By Desiree Ifft, Contributing Editor

Over the years, the ingenuity built into the fractional eCO2™ laser from Lutronic®, Inc. (Fremont, Calif.) has stood the test of time. The eCO2 combines dual-mode technology with the deep ablative capabilities of a traditional CO2 laser system. A choice of beam patterns and a wide-range of tips enable flexibility in both treatment area and depth. Offering a broad spectrum of resurfacing indications, the eCO2 delivers long lasting results with shorter treatment times, without the risks, side-effects, downtime and pain levels associated with traditional CO2 resurfacing. In addition, the eCO2 PLUS features an extra handpiece for conventional surgical applications.

David B. Vasily, M.D., F.A.A.D., of Lehigh Valley Dermatology Associates and Aesthetica Cosmetic and Laser Center in Bethlehem, Pa., purchased the eCO2 just over a year ago. He said the system's proprietary Controlled Chaos Technology™ is key to its safety and effectiveness. "The way the pulses are delivered optimizes the distance between spots to reduce the risk of collateral heating. Since this technology is so refined, the micro zones of ablation and the areas of thermal effect are perfectly proportioned."

The eCO2 operates in two main modes, static and dynamic. Static mode allows the user to repeatedly deliver or stamp predefined patterns in the treatment area. In dynamic mode, the scanner can be used like an 'air brush' for a more natural appearance, eliminating the grid pattern healing associated with 'stamping.' Dynamic mode also provides a more comfortable procedure.

Currently Dr. Vasily is using the eCO2 primarily for scar treatments and regional

or full-face resurfacing. "The nice thing about this fractional technology is that we see shorter, more predictable healing times," he said. "I have not had a single patient who has been unhappy with the outcomes." For some patients, he combines the eCO2 with non-ablative fractional treatments. To maintain patient comfort during full-face resurfacing, Dr. Vasily uses a Zimmer cryo unit, benzocaine-lidocaine-tetracaine topical gel, oral Ativan and intramuscular Toradol. For other applications, he may use only topical anesthetic or a nerve block.

"Right now, the 120 micron spot size is our go-to," he explained. "However, I believe we will find a number of additional applications for the 300 micron and the 1,000 micron spot sizes. Some physicians use the 300 micron spot for lighter resurfacing."

Dr. Vasily feels the eCO2's favorable price point and the fact that it doesn't require disposables make it a good value for his practice. Furthermore, "the laser is efficient, fast and stable. For example, we can do scar cases on the spot as part of our daily patient flow. In a busy practice like ours, time really is money. We haven't had any service issues either."

When describing the training his practice received from Lutronic, Dr. Vasily said it was "superb," and added that he has been extremely impressed with the system's user interface. "The company reminds me of today's Hyundai car company," he continued. "They are building devices that make you take notice. It's interesting that they can create these fantastic interfaces that are appreciated worldwide. Lutronic really 'gets it.' "