Laser Treatment for Melasma on the Face on Patients with Skin Types V - VI

Study participants must be between the ages of 18-85 and willing to undergo laser treatment for melasma on the face.

Participants will receive up to 4 laser treatments scheduled 4-6 weeks apart. After the final treatment, participants must agree to return to the office for follow ups at 1 month, 2 months, and 3 months.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Healthy male or female between the ages of 18-85
- Willing to undergo laser treatment for melisma on the face.
- Must present with Fitzpatrick skin types V - VI
- Participants of child-bearing potential must be willing and able to use an acceptable method of birth control for the course of the study (e.g. oral contraceptives, IUD, contraceptive implant, barrier methods with spermicide, surgical sterilization, abstinence)
- Agrees to all visits and is willing and able to provide written informed consent and consent for study-required photography

Exclusion Criteria:

- Pregnant, pregnant within the last 3 months or breastfeeding
- Hypersensitive to light exposure or taking photo sensitized medication
- Any active systemic or local skin disease that may affect wound healing
- Any bleeding disorders or currently using anticoagulants (blood thinners)
- Has used Accutane 6 months prior to enrollment
- Has a need to be exposed to artificial tanning devices or excessive sunlight during the trial
- Has had prior treatment with parenteral gold therapy
- Has a history or keloid scarring or abnormal wound healing
- Has a history of squamous cell carcinoma or melanoma in the area to be treated
- Has a history of immunosuppression/immune deficiency disorders (including HIV or AIDS) or use of immunosuppressive medications
- Has a neuropathic disorder, impaired skin sensation or diabetic neuropathy
- Is currently enrolled in an investigational drug or device trial, or has been enrolled in an investigational drug or device trial within 3 months prior to entering this study

If you are interested in participating in this study, please call the Research Department at (212) 686-7306