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**ULTRAPULSE® ENCORE™ FRACTIONAL CO2 LASER
ACTIVE FX™, MAX FX™ AND DEEP FX™ TREATMENTS**

Lumenis, Inc. of Haifa, Israel, manufactures the UltraPulse® Encore carbon dioxide laser system. This laser is used for treatment of wrinkle lines, loose or lax skin, sun damage, acne scars, and abdominal stretch marks.

The UltraPulse® Encore handpiece provides for “micro,” fractional, application of laser energy leaving untreated skin between pulses for faster healing and avoidance of complications.

Topical anesthetic cream for 1– 2 hours before the procedure will allow for minimal discomfort treatments with ACTIVE FX settings. Local anesthetic injections or nerve blocks may be required for more aggressive MAX FX or DEEP FX applications.

Redness, possible swelling, slight crusting and peeling are expected during the first week with lower energy Active FX settings. The higher energy MAX FX treatment results in crusting, which may last from 7-10 days, and prolonged redness, which may persist for several weeks. Treatment with DEEP FX will often result in swelling, pinpoint bleeding, along with drainage of serous fluid. When DEEP FX is used alone, redness and crusting usually resolve within 3-4 days. If DEEP FX is used in conjunction with ACTIVE FX, recovery time may be lengthened to 7-8 days. Shallow scars and fine wrinkle lines should respond to Active FX or MAX FX settings. Deep lines and pitted acne scars and abdominal striae (stretch marks) may require the addition of DEEP FX. Energy levels may be varied to treat separate conditions in the same session. Selected areas may be treated individually without worry for sharp lines of demarcation between treated and untreated areas. During consultation, you will be advised as to which treatment will best suit your individual needs.

Those desiring minimal disruption of normal activities will choose Active FX, but may require more than one treatment for maximum benefit. Higher energies will give desired results in one treatment for most individuals with mild to moderate aging and wrinkling or scarring. A second or third treatment may be necessary for those with more severe conditions.

Wrinkle lines of any degree, especially eye lines, lip lines and forehead creases are expected to respond to this fractional method. Response will vary depending upon the severity of the condition being treated. Skin tightening is usually observed during the procedure and is expected to continue for up to 6 months after treatment. New collagen deposition and continued smoothing occur throughout the healing process, therefore most people continue to show improvement for up to 6 months after the procedure. Results of the treatment are long-term and with proper sun protection can last for many years.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Pregnancy and breastfeeding
- Accutane use within the past year
- Ablative or semi-ablative treatments in the past 6 months:
 - Laser resurfacing or Dermabrasion (but not micro-dermabrasion)
 - Deep chemical peel
 - Portrait PSR Plasma treatment
- Uncontrolled Diabetes
- Active skin infection including Herpes
- Current treatment with immunosuppressive medications such as:
 - Cyclosporin, Methotrexate and new Biologics
- Current chemotherapy for cancer affecting healing or susceptibility to infection

ADVANTAGES:

- Fractional laser applications for faster healing
- Light peeling or crusting with lower energies
- Treatment is minimally uncomfortable at lower energies
- Local anesthesia or blocks and oral medication for higher energies
- Energy level and pattern of application tailored to individual need
- Immediate tightening effect especially for eyelids
- One treatment will suffice for most mild to moderate conditions
- Superior to any other non-surgical method for lip, eye and forehead lines
- Expected to be equal in benefit to dermabrasion for acne scars
- Benefit expected to equal laser resurfacing while avoiding side effects of resurfacing and with equivalent costs
- May be used on body areas, such as neck, chest, hands and abdomen

DISADVANTAGES:

- Expensive laser system with high maintenance costs
- Requires skilled physician or RN with experience in using laser systems
- Some “down time” (crusting, redness, and swelling), varies from 4-5 days to weeks
- Some patients may not benefit
- Infection, although unexpected, may occur, may cause scarring and be life or health threatening
- More than one treatment may be necessary
- New system with limited experience to date
- “Whitening” not reported and not expected but may occur with higher energies
- Post-treatment hyperpigmentation may occur after 3-4 weeks
- Strict sun avoidance for 7-10 days, then use of sun block for 3 months
- Patients who smoke may experience delayed healing and decreased benefit

ALTERNATIVE METHODS:

- Traditional laser resurfacing is as effective but has complications
- Dermabrasion with face-lift has proven benefit of many years
- Face Lift surgery for prominent laxity and severe wrinkling is best
- Various fillers give temporary to permanent improvement for some conditions
- Repeated chemical peels, microdermabrasions, and peeling masks may be as beneficial for treatment of sun damage as a single, very low energy, Active FX treatment
- A series of IPL, Multilift™/FotoFacial treatments may be as beneficial as a single, low energy Active FX treatment for sun damage pigmentations and has the advantage of no “down time,” but has no visible tightening effect.