

Vibraderm Enables Full Body Skin Exfoliation

By Terry Osborn

Patients have been asking for full body exfoliation for several years, but no system has offered a treatment of this magnitude without significant time limitations. Irrespective of the principal problems with particulate microdermabrasion systems, excessive times for treatments make total body exfoliation non-existent. The Vibraderm System (Vibraderm, Inc., Irving, Texas) offers a new option for aesthetic practices.

Particulate/suction type microdermabrasion systems produce significant erythema and edema for several days to a couple of weeks after a normal treatment. This downtime is costly for the patient after a 'non-ablative' treatment has been performed. Most of the treatments take 30 - 40 minutes for a full face.

The reduction of fine lines and wrinkles has proven to be temporary with most devices and has created a sense of failure from the treatments as the same lines and wrinkles reappear within weeks. This impacts the patient's anticipated benefit from the procedure. Most treatments are also very messy and require special attention as to the type of equipment that can be in the room because of the particulate that covers the room. Many laser system manufacturers will void warranties if the lasers are damaged by particulates.

Handpieces are used from patient to patient, and cross contamination can become an issue if proper cleaning procedures are not followed. The capillary

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bed can be damaged by suction and often results in patients showing visible telangiectasia after treatment that were not present prior to treatment. Make-up can be applied soon after the treatment to cover up these results, but they remain obvious to the patients themselves.

The Vibraderm System was developed to address these issues. Many of these problems have been resolved, and treatment efficacy has been improved. The treatment performed with Vibraderm is called Vibradermabrasion. A treatment for the face/neck and

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Exfoliation with the Vibraderm has been proven to be comparable to other types of systems, and produces significant tone and texture improvement. "The Vibradermabrasion treatment causes less trauma to the epidermis and as a result creates less erythema and no edema with comparable, and in some situations better results to other systems," according to Brian Zelickson, M.D., who authored a recent study called: Vibradermabrasion – New Techniques for Exfoliation.

The Vibraderm uses patient specific paddles that are designed for single patient use. The patient purchases their own 'Personal Vibraderm Kit' that includes a small and large paddle set that will only be used on their skin. Therefore, no cross contamination issues exist. The paddle is placed in the handpiece and applied to the specific areas to be treated. The oscillation of the paddle stimulates new collagen and fibroblast growth in the dermis. This increase in collagen growth has the potential to improve the lasting effect and the significance of the epidermal change as a result of the treatment.

Objective clinical assessment of 35 mm slides indicate the Vibraderm improves fine lines at nearly double that of particulate/suction devices. Vibradermabrasion treatments are very comfortable and produce consistent results. Over 85% of the patients treated in a side by side study with the Vibraderm and a particulate/suction device preferred the Vibraderm treatment from a comfort and results perspective. ■



Brian Zelickson, M.D.