Sciton, Inc. (Palo Alto, California, U.S.) has found a winning combination for skin rejuvenation, treatment of acne and the perioral area with two JOULE laser platform modules: the MicroLaserPeel (MLP) and the ProFractional-XC. Tunable settings for these modalities provide “a pretty wide-range of personalized solutions,” said Ludger Meyer, M.D., Ph.D., a plastic surgeon in private practice in Munich, Germany. “We are able to effectively treat patients of various skin types, different age groups and diverse demands.”

MLP treatments remove the stratum corneum, whereas the ProFractional-XC creates micro-ablated channels deep in the dermal tissue. “By combining these two procedures, we can remove dyspigmentation,” Dr. Meyer explained. “This combination therapy also corrects fine wrinkles that are common with smoker’s skin, for example. Overall, patients end up with a wonderful outer appearance. The topmost layer of skin looks very fresh and renewed – like a baby’s skin. There is a tightening effect from the collagen formation which occurs below the skin layers. A wound is created, but it is not as deep as a surgical incision.”

By limiting the wound to the superficial layer, “the anti-infectious skin barrier is left intact which helps to prevent potential infection,” Dr. Meyer stated. The wound healing process typically takes three to four days, but could last longer with an aggressive treatment.

In 95% of cases, Dr. Meyer performs only one session of the MLP and ProFractional-XC, beginning with the MLP. A normal session lasts about 90 minutes. Optimal results are observed at three months post treatment. According to literature and Dr. Meyer’s colleagues, “results should last approximately six years, and even up to eight years in the best cases.”

For periorbital areas, Dr. Meyer limits his treatment to the lower eyelid. “The total thickness of all seven skin layers of the eyelid is only 500 microns, although the theoretical penetration depth of the ProFractional-XC is up to 1,500 microns. I treat to a depth of 300 microns which achieves good results.”

Erhan Safak, M.D., an aesthetic and plastic surgeon in private practice in Bursa, Turkey, feels that combination therapy is particularly effective for acne scars. Patients are treated over four sessions, at one month intervals; however, “results can be seen after two sessions,” he noted. “After the third session, results are very good.”

For pigmentation issues, Dr. Safak generally schedules three sessions, about six weeks apart, with noticeable results after one treatment. Wrinkle reduction typically requires two or three sessions. “Most of my patients are very happy with the results.”

Dr. Safak is impressed with other Sciton products as well. For example, he uses the ClearScan, an Nd:YAG module of the JOULE, for hair removal and vascular conditions. “As a group, Sciton products offer great technology and are definitely effective. I have been using a number of their products for about three years now.”

“Sciton’s infrastructure and technical support have proved to be reliable, trustworthy and excellent. The people are experienced and hard-working,” added Dr. Meyer.