Constant Motion Increases SkinTyte’s Consistency and Decreases Tx Time

By Sean McKinney, Contributing Editor

SkinTyte from Sciton, Inc. (Palo Alto, Calif.) is being used with a constant motion method that reduces treatment time to as short as ten minutes on the face and 15 to 20 minutes on the abdomen, posterior thighs and other parts of the body. Excellent results, including increased consistency and patient satisfaction, are being reported.

“Constant motion treatments are more comfortable for patients; therefore, I can produce greater results than when I use the stationary technique,” said Marie N. DiLauro, M.D., founder and medical director of Reflections in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. DiLauro safely treats all skin types, addressing skin laxity on the face, neck, chest, abdomen, arms and legs. She also reduces the appearance of cellulite on the thighs and buttocks with the SkinTyte.

Using minimal cooling, maximum power and a long pulse, Dr. DiLauro moves the SkinTyte handpiece in a slow circular motion, creating a spot size of 40 mm in diameter on the face and 50 mm in diameter on the body. Her clinical endpoint is an epidermal temperature of 40° C to 42° C in a small treatment area. Once this temperature is reached she moves on to an untreated area.

“I can apply the unit’s maximum power of 150 J/cm², versus the 40 J/cm² to 42 J/cm² that I would be limited to if I were using the stationary technique,” she explained.

Her patients undergo three to six SkinTyte treatments every two weeks to trigger maximum collagen production. Most patients report firmer skin immediately after SkinTyte facial treatments. Collagen production continues for six months after the initial treatment, thus tightening the skin. Results vary from subtle to dramatic, depending on the patient’s age, skin condition, skin health and nutritional status. For optimal facial rejuvenation, SkinTyte can be combined with BroadBand Light (BBL) and the Pro-Fractional-XC tunable laser resurfacing.

Gloria Lopez, M.D., a cosmetic laser specialist in private practice in Coral Gables, Fla., starts treatment in two 50 mm² areas with the stationary approach. She applies three to five pulses of 4.5 to 6 seconds in each region, then moves the handpiece throughout the area for 30 seconds – or until visible tightening occurs.

Dr. Lopez uses settings of 40 J/cm² to 45 J/cm², allows two seconds of cooling and maintains an epidermal temperature of 12° C to 15° C. “I try to maintain a critical temperature, penetrating deeply with heat.”

Dr. Lopez recommends two to three treatments, three to four weeks apart, with a maintenance treatment every 6 or 12 months. She targets the same areas as Dr. DiLauro and treats skin types I through V, decreasing fluence and cooling temperature for type V if necessary.

“I always treat half the face or half the neck, then sit the patient up with a mirror,” said Dr. Lopez. “The immediate contrast is often striking. The long-term results are more dramatic, perceived as diminishing rhytides and laxity, improving texture and overall cosmetic improvement.”

Superior patient comfort is made possible by SkinTyte’s uniform contact cooling from its sapphire plate. “I’ve had patients fall asleep during the procedure,” said Dr. Lopez. Furthermore, temperatures of 0° C to 30° C spare patients post treatment swelling and redness, and eliminate downtime.

“After six years of performing skin tightening treatments with eight different devices, I prefer using Sciton’s SkinTyte because it enables me to easily perform comfortable, effective treatments on my patients,” said Dr. DiLauro.