

Sciton's Tunable Resurfacing Lasers Allow Customized Tx

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Before Tx



After one ProFractional-XC, MLP and BBL Tx
Photos courtesy of Robert G. Aycock, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Tunable Resurfacing Laser (TRL) technology from Sciton, Inc. (Palo Alto, Calif.) allows practitioners to fine tune ablation depth and control thermal effects for individual treatments. With an emphasis on an individual patient's particular pathology, physicians can more easily achieve the desired outcome and downtime.

"I have the ability to treat patients more aggressively or less aggressively in certain areas to achieve an artistic and individualized end result," noted Jason Michaels, M.D., a cosmetic dermatologist in private practice in Las Vegas, Nev. "I can easily change the ablative effects or the coagulative effects, based on the different areas that I'm trying to treat, while combining several technologies in one setting."

The MicroLaserPeel (MLP), which can ablate into the epidermis, and the ProFractional-XC, which creates micro ablated channels deep in the dermal tissue, are two modules of the JOULE laser platform that incorporate TRL technology.

According to Dr. Michaels, "The MLP is great for returning a glow to the skin. Usually we define an MLP as 50 microns or less. The maximum depth of penetration for this procedure also allows some improvement in fine wrinkles." By treating at a depth of 10 microns, patients can wear make-up in two days.

Dr. Michaels often combines a superficial MLP with a deeper ProFractional-XC treatment, which preserves much of the normal tissue and architecture around those micro ablated channels for a quicker healing time. "My goal is two-fold with a standard patient: improved color symmetry and diminished fine lines," he advised. "The downtime is a long weekend – three to four days."

Sciton's ProFractional-XC is also effective in treating acne scars at deeper

levels and with multiple sessions. "With a series of treatments, patients can usually expect a 50% improvement," Dr. Michaels said. "Unlike the traditional ProFractional, the ProFractional-XC allows you to add more coagulative heat to the process for greater end results and visually pleasing effects."

Dr. Michaels noted that, technologically, Sciton should be applauded for combining so many devices into one platform, with such a wide-range of applications. "These are absolutely cutting edge products. Sciton provides clients with the most comprehensive devices and up-to-date tools needed in laser surgical medicine." Moreover, a vast majority of Sciton systems are still in operation, many with over a decade in use.

"The ProFractional-XC is versatile and effective," added Robert G. Aycock, M.D., F.A.C.S., a plastic surgeon in private practice in Walnut Creek and Greenbrae, Calif. "It allows you to combine ablation and coagulation from mild to more intense, or ablate with no coagulation at all."

Like Dr. Michaels, Dr. Aycock combines the MLP with every ProFractional-XC treatment for fine lines on the cheeks, the forehead and periorbital areas. "I perform MLP first, followed by ProFractional-XC," he noted. A typical treatment takes less than 45 minutes. After three sessions spaced one month apart, patients can expect "better skin color, tone and texture." Downtime is four to five days.

"I can tune the laser to only 4 microns or as deep as 1,500 microns," Dr. Aycock stated. "The JOULE platform is perfect because you can add or take features away as you see fit. There are also no disposables. This is advanced technology. It's very easy to achieve the results that a patient desires."