

Intense Pulse Light (IPL)

What Is Photo Rejuvenation (IPL)?

Photo Rejuvenation is a series of Intense Pulsed Light treatments that improve the appearance of Rosacea, flushing, broken capillaries, sun damaged skin, age and tan spots, skin texture and photo aging. IPL is especially effective for treatment of the hands, face, neck, and chest areas.

How Does Photo Rejuvenation (IPL) Work?

An intense light is applied in series of gentle pulses over the treatment area. Without damaging the skin, the light penetrates through the skin and is absorbed by the abnormally dilated vessels or pigmentation in the skin. The lesion may darken before it fades away or flakes off. It is very important to avoid sun exposure prior to and during treatment in order to facilitate the best possible results.

What Is Treatment Like?

Treatment may vary from 15 to 45 minutes depending on the size of the area to be treated. First, protective eye goggles will be provided, and the treatment area may be cleansed (do not wear makeup on the area), and a laser lotion is then applied to allow the laser head to glide across the skin. The laser head is cooled through a water system within the mechanism for comfort, and you may also apply ice packs to the area prior to the procedure. When a pulse of light is delivered, a sensation similar to a snap of a small rubber-band may be felt. Pain is minimal, however topical anesthesia is available and may be utilized for sensitive skin areas. You may apply makeup and sunscreen immediately after the procedure.

What Are The Possible Side Effects From Photo Rejuvenation (IPL)?

Side effects are very rare. Immediately following the procedure, the skin may appear flushed for several days, brown pigmented spots may appear darker, and red capillaries may be more visible. In rare instances, temporary swelling and/or blistering can occur.

How Many Treatments Will I Need?

For optimal results, a series of 3-5 treatments is recommended. Follow up treatments may be desired once per year to maintain results. It is very important to wear sunscreen daily in order to avert new pigmented age spots or capillary damage from occurring.

What Improvement Will I See?

Patients have a high degree of satisfaction with their individual results. Expect to see a gradual decrease in redness, broken capillaries, flushing, and irregular pigmentation. After each treatment, the skin will feel smoother and appear to have a more even tone.

If you have any further questions please call the Dermatology Clinic of Idaho at (208) 939-4599 or (208) 376-4776