raleigh eye and face

CO_2 FRACTIONAL LASER RESURFACING CONSENT

Dr. Mettu has explained to me that I am a good candidate for CO_2 Fractional Laser Resurfacing treatment and that although laser resurfacing has been shown to be highly effective, no guarantees can be made that I will benefit from treatment. I understand that the most common side effects and complications of this laser treatment are the following:

Alternatives include but are not limited to observation, chemical peels, non CO2 laser energy based treatments (e.g. radiofrequency, non ablative laser) and microneedling.

1. Pain: The sharp, burning sensation of each laser pulse may produce a moderate to severe amount of discomfort. Topical anesthetics and anesthetic injections may be used to help with pain during the procedure. There may also be pain after the procedure.
2. Swelling and oozing: Areas most likely to swell are around the eyes and neck. A clear fluid may be present in the lasered areas and may create a crust (or scab) if the areas are not kept moist. Within about 2 days, you may appear to have an exaggerated tan with slight micro-crusting that may last as long as two weeks depending on how aggressive your treatment is. It is recommended that a healing ointment be kept on the skin during this period.
3. Prolonged skin redness: the laser-treated areas may initially appear bright red in color depending on how aggressive your treatment is. Any redness will fade to pink over the following couple of weeks, and normal skin color will return but prolonged redness is possible.
4. Skin darkening (hyperpigmentation): Hyperpigmentation of the skin can occur in the treated areas and will usually eventually fade within a few months. This reaction is more common in patients with olive or dark skin tones. The risk is increased if the laser-treated area is exposed to the sun.
5. Skin lightening (hypopigmentation): Light spots can appear soon after treatment or can be a delayed response to the laser resurfacing. The pale areas can darken or re-pigment in several months, but could be permanent.
6. Scarring: The risk of this complication is minimal, but it can occur whenever the skin's surface is disrupted. Strict adherence to all advised postoperative instructions will reduce the possibility of this occurrence. Do not pick as this causes scarring.
7. Infection: A skin infection in the postoperative period can result. This risk is minimized by strictly following postoperative care.
8. Allergic reaction: It is possible that an allergic reaction to an aesthetic, topical cream, or medication can occur.
9. Ectropion: In rare instances, an outward rotation of the eyelids can result after eyelid laser resurfacing.
10. Acne or milia formation: Flare-up acne or formation of milia can occur in the postoperative period.

By providing my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read and understood all of the information written above as well as that contained within the informational link sent to me. I feel that I have been adequately informed of my alternative treatment options, the risks of the proposed treatment, and the risks of not treating my condition. I understand that following postoperative care strictly is critical to ensure proper healing. I hereby freely consent to laser resurfacing to be performed by Pradeep Mettu, MD.

_____

Patient Signature