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Laser Lessons: Trust Your Technician! By Lori Wrightington

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How often do you look in the mirror and wish you could look young again? Laser technology is the newest fountain of youth for many satisfied clients. Although lasers can achieve amazing results, the decision to proceed with laser treatment should not be made in haste. The best results are achieved with preventative as well as corrective measures. Make sure you trust both the laser facility and technician before beginning any treatment.

In today's cosmetic market, there are many different lasers, most of which have a similar functionality. As with all technological components, some are better than others. Make certain your facility of choice is not using an antiquated laser. Advances in laser technology make treatments more comfortable, less invasive and reduce downtime. Before you have any laser treatment, make sure the particular laser the facility is using is the best for your desired outcome. If you feel like you need to, do your own research on the lasers the facility is using. You should feel comfortable that you are getting the best care possible.

The person who will be administering the laser treatment is just as important as the laser itself. Most laser treatments should be performed by a well qualified, certified laser technician and/or physician. Do not hesitate to ask your provider how many procedures of your chosen type they have performed. Practice makes perfect in all professions. Ask to see before and after pictures of patients and know their historical outcomes.

Your picture should be taken before each treatment. Skin typing is important and best results are achieved when your skin is not tanned. Always remember to ask about specials and customized treatment packages. Make sure your provider listens to you and to the results you want to achieve. A good technician will make recommendations based on realistic expectations and will not promise what they cannot deliver.

Remember, it is your responsibility as a patient to make sure you are being treated at a reputable facility. Be thorough – no one wants to be the "guinea pig." Do your homework, consider your options and make certain you have found your comfort zone. Put your skin in the hands of a trusted and trained provider. When it comes to your face and skin, shop quality not price. Be reasonable and prudent but above all be cautious. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!



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