# Laser Treatment of Photodamaged Skin

David J. Goldberg, MD, JD

Skin Laser and Surgery Specialists

Schwieger Dermatology Group

Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai

#### Disclosures

No Relevant Disclosures

### Photodamaged Skin

- Pigment
- Rhytids

#### Photodamaged Skin

- Rejuvenation (45-70 years of age)
- Prejuvenation (30-45 years of age)

# Rejuvenation

#### Fractional Photothermolysis

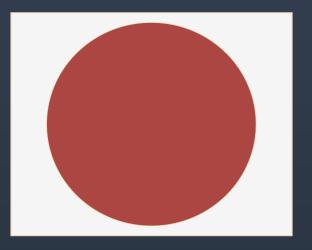
Full field ablative CO<sub>2</sub> resurfacing was the gold standard in treating facial photodamage, rhytides, skin texture

- Limitations:
  - Prolonged healing times
  - Unfavorable safety profile (dyspigmentation, scarring)

Concept of fractional photothermolysis, allowed development of fractional lasers

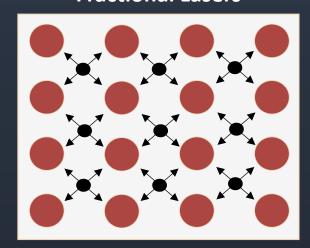
- Advantages:
  - Shorter recovery periods
  - Improved safety profile

#### **Traditional Ablative**



Confluent epidermal damage

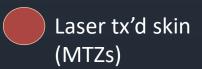
#### **Fractional Lasers**

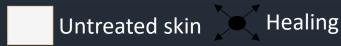


Columns of controlled thermal injury (microscopic treatment zones)

Intervening untreated skin

Rapid re-epithelialization

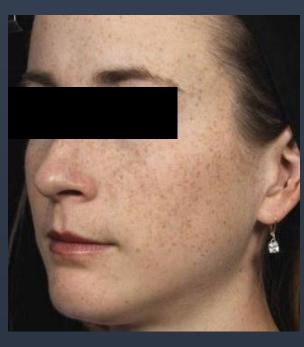










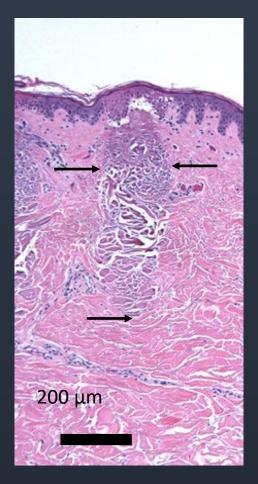


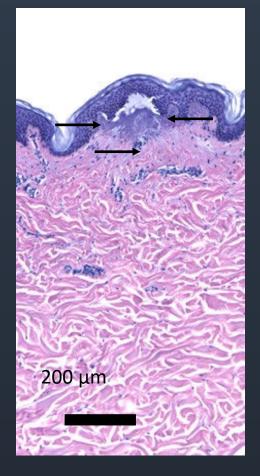


Fractional Lasers = Tissue Normalization

#### Non-ablative Fractional Resurfacing

- Non-Ablative
  - Tissue is coagulated (200-2000 microns deep), NOT vaporized
  - Stratum corneum remains intact
- Fractional
  - Pattern of 60-400 micron diameter (MTZs)
  - Each surrounded by viable tissue
- Resurfacing
  - Extrusion & replacement of damaged tissue
  - Rapid re-epithelization (1 day 2 weeks)
- Wavelengths
  - 1470, 1540, 1550nm
  - 1927nm

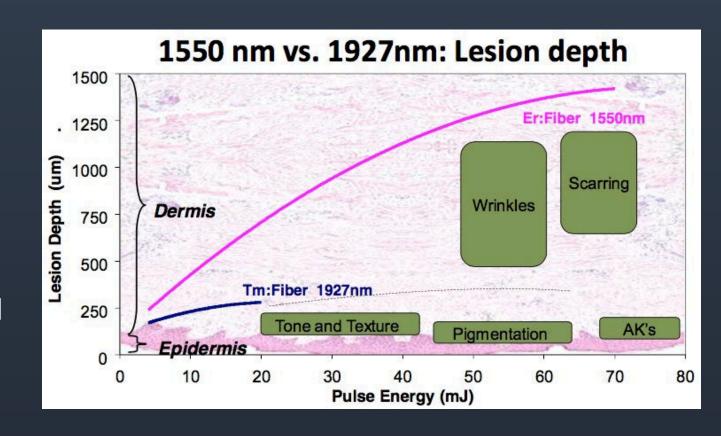




1927 nm

#### Non-ablative Fractional Resurfacing

- 1470, 1540, 1550 nm
  - Coagulate into the dermis
  - For texture, tightening, scars
- 1927 nm
  - Greater water absorption coefficient more superficial absorption
  - For pigment, crepiness, AKs



# Photodamage – 1550nm NAFR



improvements in fine lines, texture and pigment

Before

6 Months Post 4 Treatments

# Photodamage – 1927nm NAFR



Before



2 Weeks Post 2 Treatments

Significant improvement in pigment

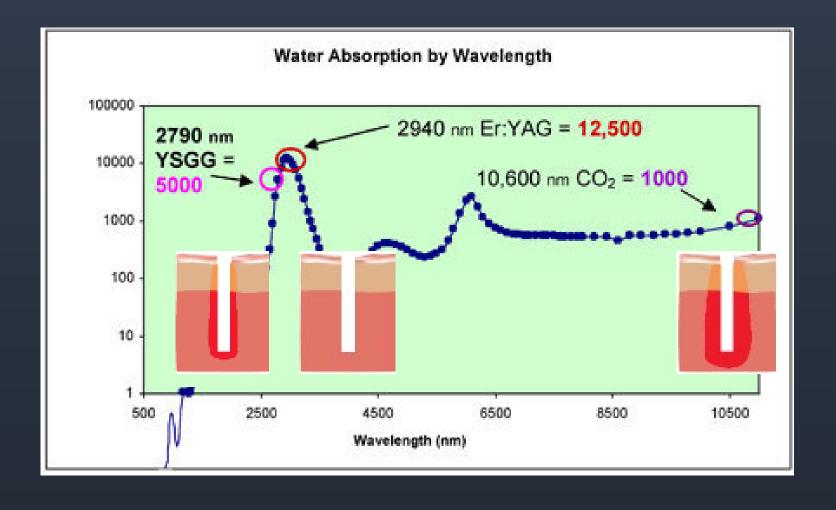
### Ablative Fractional Resurfacing (AFR)

- Removal/ablation of tissue
- More downtime but often fewer treatments
- Laser Variables
  - Wavelength
  - Energy (mJ)
  - Density (% Coverage)
  - Power



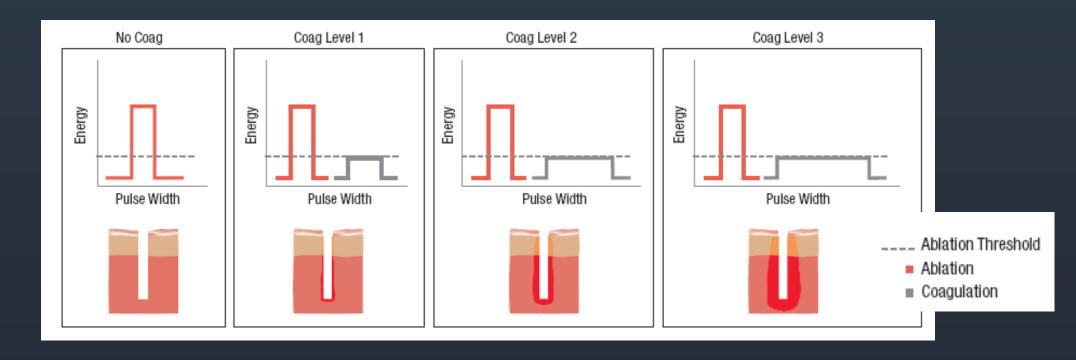
#### AFR – Wavelength

The greater the absorption coefficient → the less collateral thermal injury



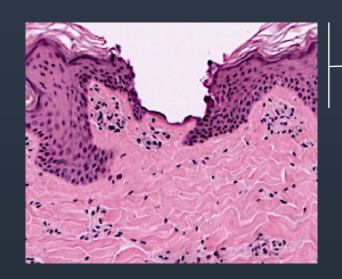
#### AFR – Tunable Coagulation

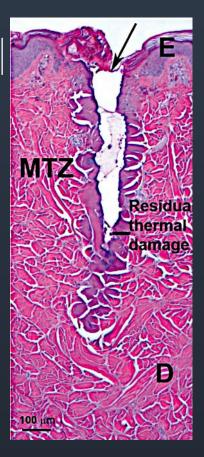
- Optimize the ratio of ablation and thermal zone
- Increase coagulation for more collagen production



### AFR – Pulse Energy

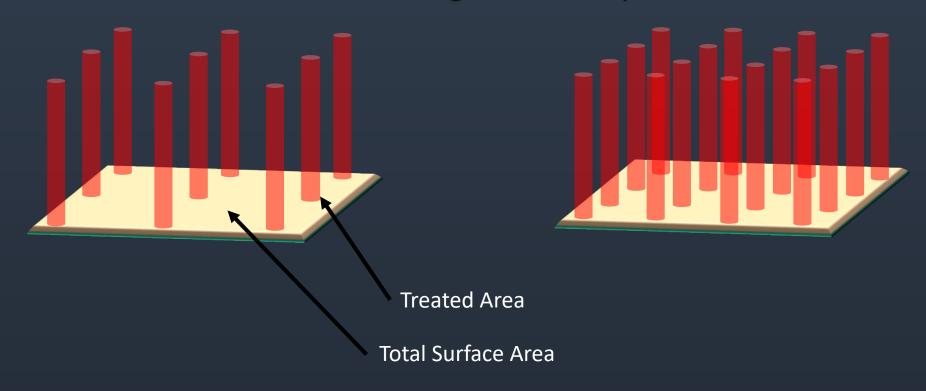
Increasing Laser Pulse Energy Increasing MTZ Depth





#### AFR – Treatment Density

Increasing MTZ Density

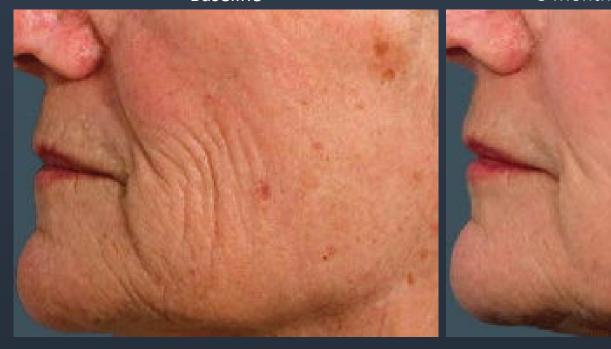


Tx Density = Treated Area/ Total Surface Area

# Facial Rhytides – CO<sub>2</sub> AFR

Baseline

3 Months Post 2 Treatments



# Facial Rhytides/Festoons – CO<sub>2</sub> AFR

Baseline

3 Months Post 1 Treatment



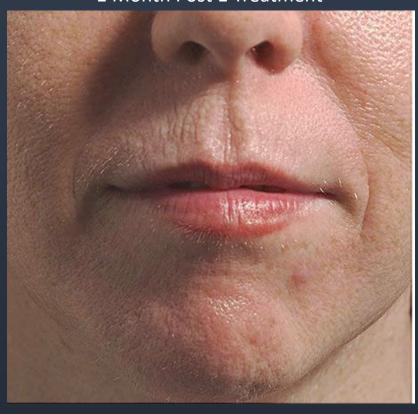


# Perioral Rhytides – CO<sub>2</sub> AFR

Baseline



1 Month Post 1 Treatment



# Facial Rhytides – Erbium AFR

Baseline



1 Month Post 1 Treatment

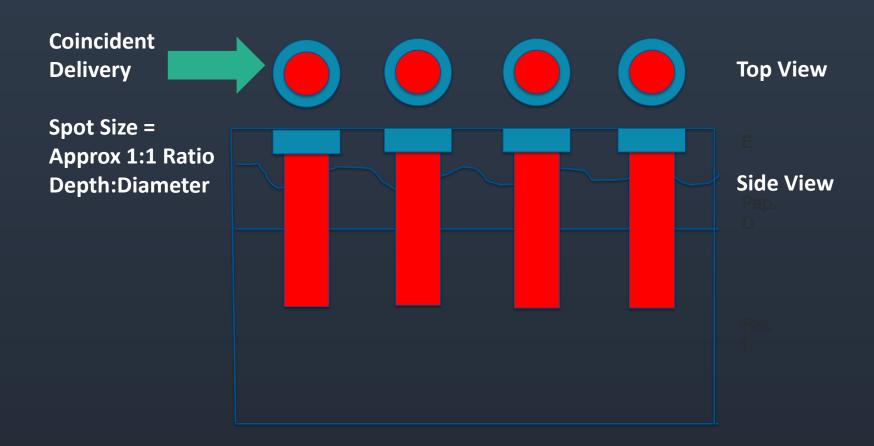


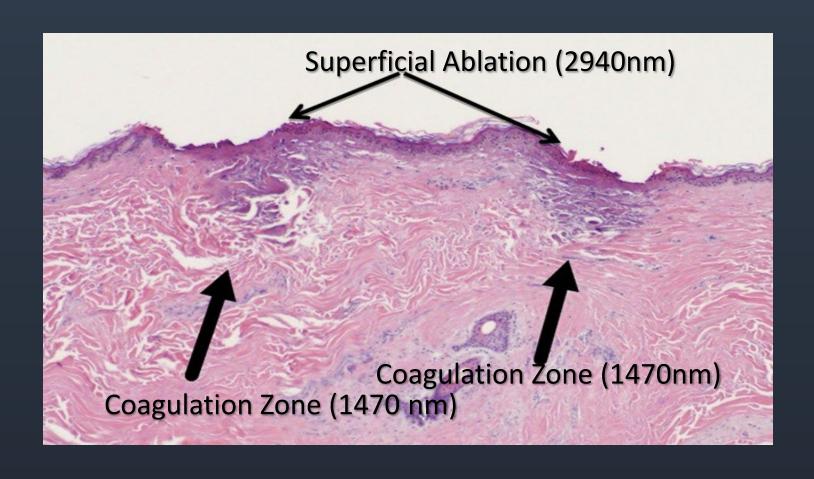
## Neck Rejuvenation – CO<sub>2</sub> AFR

S/p 1 Tx Baseline 4 Month F/U 01/26/2008 02/7/2008 05/22/2008

70mJ - 8.33% Coverage (50% Total Coverage but only 1 Pass)

- 2940 nm targets the epidermis (20-100um) to address textural issues/pigment
- 1470 nm targets the dermis (100-700um) to stimulate collagenesis



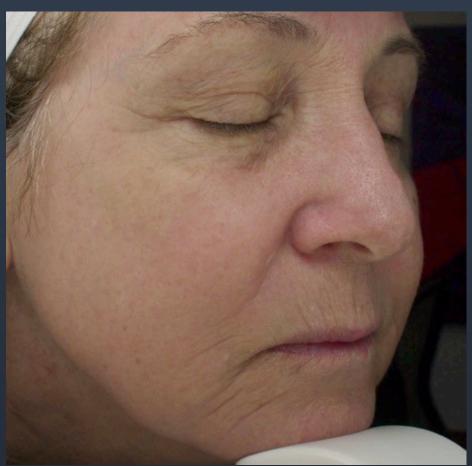




Baseline

S/P 1 Tx





Before S/P 1 Tx



Baseline

S/P 2 Tx's

#### Conclusions

#### **NAFR**

- Advantages
  - Less down time
  - Lower risk of AE's
  - Minimal aftercare
  - Can use multiple lasers same day
- Disadvantages
  - More treatments
  - Less tightening

#### **AFR**

- Advantages
  - Greatest effect in single tx
  - Greater tightening
- Disadvantages
  - More downtime
  - Greater risk if AE's
- Hybrid NAFR/AFR New frontier

# Prejuvenation

#### Gen Z and Millennials

- Gen Z: Born 1996-2010
  - First generation to not experience a world without internet
    - Access to more advanced technology
  - Globally connected at earlier age
    - More focused on social justice
    - Greater appreciation of diversity and finding uniqueness
  - Value self-care



#### Gen Z and Millennials

- Millennials: Born 1981-1995
  - Largest living demographic
  - More limited technology as children
  - Stronger economy when young
  - Expect to be heard; Loyalty can be fickle



#### Laser treatments

#### Prejuvenation Laser Treatment

- Low downtime
- Glow, enhanced tone/texture
- Erase early sun damage
- Stimulate collagen production
- > Minimize pores





#### Combined 1064nm 650usecond/Superficial Erbium Laser: "



4 Days After Treatmen

# Patient in Early-40s



Before Treatment Immediately After Treatment Morning After Treatment 5-Days Post Treatment

# Patient in Early-40s

