

Frequently Asked Questions

MICROPEN



What is Micropen?

The *Micropen* is an electric skin needling device which uses 12 very fine needles to break down old scar tissue and stimulate skin cells to proliferate. Cell multiplication results in the formation of new tissue layers of collagen and elastin fibers as well as in new capillaries for an improved blood supply.

What conditions can be treated or improved with micro-needling?

- Mild to moderate acne scarring; new or old scars
- Skin texture and pore size
- Loose, lax skin
- Fine lines and wrinkles
- Stretch marks
- Poor circulation

How does micro-needling work?

The pen gently slides along the skin, penetrating the upper layers of the skin to create tiny wounds. This prompts the body to respond by creating new collagen and elastin fibers; resulting in plumping the skin and reducing the appearance of scars, fine lines and wrinkles.

What does the procedure involve?

Skin is cleansed and a numbing cream may be applied to lessen discomfort. A collagen-stimulating product (Hyaluronic Acid) is used to help the pen glide across the skin. A sterile, disposable tip with 12 fine needles is then used to pierce the skin. Adjustable speed and needle depth allow the needles to pierce the skin's layer at 90 degrees and increase the absorption of products.

What will I look like after the treatment?

Redness, mild swelling (similar to a mild sunburn) and minimal pinpoint bleeding and/or bruising is typical for 24-48 hours. Within 1-2 weeks, skin should be smoother and more radiant but full effects won't be seen until a few months later.

What is the down time after the treatment?

Inflammatory response is minimal and fades significantly within hours. Redness may last for 12-48 hours. To reduce redness, Hyaluronic Acid is recommended post-procedure. Zinc based sunblock and mineral makeup are also recommended.

Is micro-needling painful?

Pain tolerance varies from person to person. Most experience minimal discomfort. Prior to the treatment a numbing cream may be applied to minimize pain.

Can micro-needling be performed on any skin color?

Micro-needling is safe on all skin types and skin colors. There is minimal risk of post-inflammatory hyper-pigmentation.

How many treatments do I need and how often can micro-needling procedures be repeated?

Micro-needling can be safely repeated every 4-6 weeks until desired results are achieved. For collagen induction it is recommended to start with 3 treatments, with 4-6 weeks between treatments. For scar reduction an average of 3-6 treatments are recommended. The number of treatments needed depends on individual response and the extent of present damage.

Are there risks of post-treatment infections?

Because the pricked channels close within 20 minutes to one hour, infections are extremely unlikely.

What should I avoid on my skin after treatment?

To ensure optimal healing, do not use AHA's (glycolic Acid), retinol, acidic or "active" ingredients for 2-3 days post-procedure. Exposure to sun should also be avoided and zinc based sunblock should be used.

Am I a candidate for the micro-needling?

Micro-needling can be safely performed on all skin types and all skin colors. There is minimal risk of pigment change or post inflammatory hyper-pigmentation. Skin micro-needling can treat sensitive and fragile areas that are difficult to treat with other procedures. These areas include the eyes, the neck and the back of the hands.

However, it is not suitable for those who:

- Have used Accutane (isotretinoin) within the last three months
- Have open wounds, cuts or abrasions on the skin
- Have had radiation treatment to the skin within the last year
- Have a current skin infection, condition, or herpes simplex in the area to be treated
- Are pregnant or breast feeding
- Have any history of keloid or hypertrophic scars or poor wound healing

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