

Aesthetic Practices Discover Value in Partnering with Lutronic

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Before eCO2 Tx



After eCO2 Tx

Photos courtesy of J. Rapaport, M.D.



Before AccuLift Tx

After AccuLift Tx

Photos courtesy of J. David Holcomb, M.D.

Aesthetic practices in the U.S. are quickly discovering what international physicians have known for years: partnering with Lutronic, Inc. (Princeton Junction, N.J.), is a value added proposition. Two of the company's most effective and popular offerings are the eCO2 multifunctional fractional resurfacing laser system and AccuLift, the minimally invasive facial contouring procedure.

"Value is important, especially in the current economy," said J. David Holcomb, M.D., a facial plastic and cosmetic laser surgeon in private practice in Sarasota, Fla. "Lutronic has invested a lot of money into research and development of their products and I'm very happy with their devices."

According to Dr. Holcomb, the eCO2 provides "a great interface with the tissue. Moreover, the handpiece is very ergonomic." Easily interchangeable treatment tips provide various spot sizes (120, 300 and 1,000 microns). "I use the 120 micron spot to achieve skin tightening. I feel it is important to reach greater depth with a smaller spot size for tightening and acne scarring," said Dr. Holcomb, who often reserves the larger spot sizes for dyschromia.

With a single eCO2 treatment, "we can attain very good results with regard to skin tightening, especially around the eyes and for laxity on the cheeks," Dr. Holcomb noted. Typical downtime is five days.

Dr. Holcomb also likes having the option of dual treatment modes and will generally start with the static single scan mode, followed by the continuous or dynamic mode. "Dynamic mode treatment is a fast method for covering larger areas such as the neck or décolleté, but also helps to blend treatment areas and transition zones," he explained.

Furthermore, the multi-pulsing ability of the eCO2 allows the pulse energy to be reduced without compromising depth of effect. "We can still go quite deep with several stacked pulses, but with lower pulse energies and shorter pulse widths we are not placing as much thermal effect into the tissue," Dr. Holcomb explained. "This may translate into slightly faster initial healing, and certainly a shorter duration of erythema. Initial results with this approach have been very favorable."

The AccuLift procedure is exclusively available with Lutronic's AccuSculpt contouring system. "Patients tolerate treatment very well in the office, and at their first follow-up visit, one week later, they are already seeing results," reported W. Tracy Hankins, M.D., a plastic surgeon in private practice in Las Vegas, Nev. A single treatment under local anesthetic takes advantage of the safety and efficacy of the 1444 nm wavelength to precisely contour the face and tighten the skin around the nasolabial folds, jowls and neck. "Liposuction with a very small cannula can also be used to remove excess fat from these areas." All patients are back to work within several days.

"Lutronic is very supportive of advances in technology. They have been a tremendous partner," Dr. Hankins stated. "For example, with the AccuLift, various luminaries have been in touch with each other, so they can be proactive in identifying any problems, as well as suggesting changes in protocols to achieve better outcomes. The more Lutronic grows in the U.S. market, the more likely they will be at the forefront of new uses for these technologies."

Dr. Hankins also pointed out that the price-to-value ratio of Lutronic lasers is extremely attractive. "The few other quality products that match Lutronic's extensive features often sell for considerably more."