

**“With our Restylane** products, physicians can offer their patients a complete solution for tissue tailored facial augmentation – a natural beauty lift using the body’s own material,” said Mikael Svensson, senior marketing director at Q-Med. “The result is instantaneous, producing a long lasting, natural enhancement that is gentle and safe to the skin.”

Since its introduction in 1996, “Restylane has undergone extensive histological and clinical studies,” Mr. Svensson conveyed. “There is an increasing body of evidence relating to its ease of use, tolerability and effectiveness. To date, more than 1.5 million treatments have been successfully carried out worldwide.” Both Restylane SubQ and Restylane Vital debuted this year. “We anticipate that the effect of Restylane SubQ will last at least 12 months,” Mr. Svensson said. “Restylane Vital has been mainly launched in Southern Europe this past summer. Skin is hydrated, thus creating better elasticity and tone. Most patients undergo three treatment sessions, spaced four weeks apart. Many patients complete a series of treatments in the spring, then again in the fall. Restylane Vital is recommended twice a year.”

**Lips usually need** to be retreated every four to six months with Restylane. “But other indications can last as long as 18 months,” Mr. Svensson said. “Restylane is also often used in combination with other fillers, especially botulinum toxin. A muscle block may extend the duration of a filler. Likewise, a product like Botox or Dysport is often unable to fully treat a very severe

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glabella. You first treat with Botox/Dysport, then wait one week. You may still have a fold or a wrinkle. You can fill it out with Restylane.”

Mr. Svensson predicts that European consumers will increasingly embrace facial injectables. “You’re able to achieve a lot with minimal downtime. Most patients show results instantly and treatments may not have to be scheduled that often. Especially with Restylane, treatment for wrinkles and folds commonly need to be repeated only once a year. Biodegradable fillers are where the growth will likely occur. Frankly, I don’t expect that permanent fillers will grow that much. Patients will eventually encounter a problem with these permanent fillers. The question is not if, but when. Several articles have already cited problems with these fillers in various countries, whether it’s two, three, four or five years from the initial injection.

Permanent implants are different. They appear safe and can easily be removed.”

### **New Laser Technologies**

The DioLite 532 laser system from Iridex is the laser of choice for Marco Dal Canton, M.D., who is in private practice in Belluno, Italy. “I was particularly attracted by the compact size, minimal maintenance and potential durability of the new diode lasers. I was also excited about the prospect of providing purpura-free treatment for telangiectasias by using a long pulsed 532 nm laser. It appeared to be a device well-suited to the busy, aging population. These patients are searching for rapid clearance of their photoaging signs, with negligible downtime.”

**Dr. Dal Canton** was also impressed by the reputation and marketing style of Iridex, as well as the positive feedback he had received from colleagues who had used the DioLite 532. “The DioLite is compact, has a small footprint, an easy to read front panel, and a favorable costs/benefits ratio,” Dr. Dal Canton said. “Having used the device for a prolonged period now, I appreciate the interchangeable fiberoptic handpieces (200, 500, 700, 1,000 and 1,400 micron spot sizes), which are extremely light and effortless to angle. They are apt to trace skin lesions precisely and perpendicularly. These handpieces can also be used on difficult surfaces, such as the ears.” The DioLite 532 laser system includes a polarized head lamp magnification system (unveiling the target beyond the epidermis) and can be equipped with an optional ScanLite scanner. “This scanner delivers a 700 micron spot at 0 to 25 Hz, with 0% to 40% spacing between spots, within square, rectangular and round geometric patterns, up to an area of 1 cm<sup>2</sup>,” Dr. Dal Canton explained.

Before using the ScanLite, patients are typically pre-cooled with gel packs (a thin layer of water-based 4° C gel). “I use conservative settings with the scanner, usually one pass only, to avoid bulk tissue heating,” Dr. Dal Canton said. He also sometimes traces specific vascular and pigmented defects with mostly the 500 or 700 micron spot.

**Typically, one to** three treatment sessions are required, spaced four to six weeks apart. “Several additional sessions may be needed though, for selected conditions and wide vascular/pigmented lesions,” Dr. Dal Canton added. Transient slight to moderate edematous swelling is common. “This swelling occurs mainly in



Marco Dal Canton, M.D.

the malar area. It is a non-palpable, focal pinpoint microcrusting, affecting mostly darker complexions. There is also darkening and progressive shedding of pigmented lesions.”

Although the DioLite lacks a built-in cooling system, “I have not recorded scars or serious undesired effects due to overheating,” Dr. Dal Canton said. “This is after almost four years of intense daily use. Of course, I use conservative settings.” Apart from approved indications, Dr. Dal Canton uses the DioLite to treat some warts. “Compared to cryotherapy, I find

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the laser to be exceedingly precise and effective on flat warts.” He also finds the laser effective for molluscum contagiosum and for select red scars. “In addition, we realized that our patients often appreciate textural and fine wrinkle improvement. Hence, we now integrate the DioLite system in our treatment protocols for mild to moderate photoaging in Fitzpatrick skin types I to III. We are able to achieve a negligible rate of side effects and very limited downtime.”

**The new dual-wavelength** VariLite laser system from Iridex will debut at the EADV meeting. “The VariLite is cleared for 19 specific indications, including vascular lesions, leg veins, benign pigmented lesions, cutaneous lesions, hair removal, and moderate inflammatory acne vulgaris,” said Brad Renton, Ph.D., vice president of aesthetics at Iridex. “This makes it the most versatile semiconductor-based laser system on the market. The laser is also small, reliable and affordable.”

VariLite offers both 532 nm and 940 nm wavelengths. “We have basically taken the DioLite 532 laser system, which has been an extremely popular laser for us, and added a 940 nm direct diode to it,” Dr. Renton explained. “Of the near-infrared wavelengths, 940 nm is optimal since it has the highest oxyhemoglobin absorption coefficient ( $9.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). This is 35 times lower



VariLite by Iridex

than the absorption coefficient of 532 nm ( $320 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), thus allowing for the treatment of larger and deeper vessels. It is also 40% higher than 810 nm ( $6.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and 80% higher than 1064 nm ( $5.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). Hence, there is improved selectivity, reduced discomfort, and fewer side effects. Less strongly absorbed wavelengths penetrate more deeply, and can more uniformly heat through larger diameter vessels.”

**According to Bill Kelley**, international sales manager for Sciton, Inc., “It is wonderful to see how the marriage of technologies, or the combined use of lasers, bright light sources, fillers and cosmetics, have allowed cosmetic surgeons around the world to dramatically improve the outcomes of their patients. As researchers continue their quest to find even more answers, we are seeing dramatic improvements in treatments for acne, psoriasis, skin



Profile by Sciton

rejuvenation, unsightly veins, and more. In the area of devices, surgeons are looking for utility and non-obsolescence in their purchases. They want value for money spent, and the ability to upgrade their capabilities. Industry continues to be innovative and responsive in an effort to fulfill those wishes and needs. This partnership between surgeon and industry is making for a very healthy future for all.”

Sciton is just one example of a device company trying to meet the needs of the aesthetics market via its multi-platform Profile. “Rather than offering a fixed product design, Sciton allows the surgeon to choose between various laser and light components,” Mr. Kelley said. “One can mix and match modules, allowing for a diverse range of treatments. Physicians can also add additional modules to the Profile console at a later time. This concept offers a totally flexible arrangement to the buyer. He or she purchases only what they need or want.” Applications include pigmented lesions, high-speed hair removal, facial and leg veins, non-ablative rejuvenation, skin peeling, scar revision, port-wine stains, wrinkle treatment and pseudofolliculitis barbae (razor bumps).

**Danish Dermatologic** Development A/S (Hoersholm, Denmark) manufactures two intense pulsed light (IPL) systems: Ellipse Light and Ellipse Flex. “Ellipse Light is directed at the beauty salons and beauty market segment,” said Anders Bjerg, area sales manager for Europe. The two indications for Ellipse Light are permanent hair reduction and skin rejuvenation (including repair of sun-damaged skin). “We call our technology