

IRIDEX Enhances Treatments with VariLite and ClearView

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor

The VariLite™ dual wavelength laser and ClearView™ headset for improved visualization from IRIDEX Corporation (U.S.) are improving patient outcomes and streamlining procedures.

“The VariLite combines one prior laser from IRIDEX, the DioLite™ 532, with a 940 nm wavelength,” said Paul Carniol, M.D., a clinical associate professor in the department of surgery at New Jersey Medical School.

The 532 nm wavelength can be used to treat hyperpigmentation, facial lentigines, superficial photo-aging changes and telangiectasis. “I use the 940 wavelength to treat the larger telangiectasis and the ones that tend to be resistant to 532 nm,” Dr. Carniol explained. “At about 0.5 mm the 532 tends to be less effective and that’s where the 940 becomes more effective. The 940 is also more effective at treating deeper vessels because 940 nm has a greater depth of penetration. Before treating any lesions with the 940 nm, I always apply a topical anesthetic to reduce patient discomfort.”

Dr. Carniol sometimes uses both wavelengths of the VariLite during the same treatment session. “For example, a patient may have a larger vessel around his nose or mouth, which responds better to the 940 wavelength, as opposed to smaller, more superficial vessels that respond better to the 532 wavelength. Spider angiomas also respond extremely well to the 940 wavelength. Overall, the VariLite provides me a much greater variety of treatments in the same box and setting. I believe it is a great laser for treatment of facial vessels and facial vascular lesions.”

Dr. Carniol uses the ScanLite™ accessory with the 532 wavelength of the VariLite. “When you scan acne lesions, you produce photo-activated porphyrins. These



Before Tx

After Tx

tend to kill the bacteria in the lesions. In patients with an acute acne breakout, you can frequently calm down the breakout. It is amazing. Sometimes patients are calmed down for weeks.”

The ScanLite can also be used for laser facial treatments. For this indication, Dr. Carniol typically schedules three or four sessions at monthly intervals. “The ScanLite does many things that people associate with an IPL treatment. It emits multiple pulses over a broad area,” he said. “The ScanLite allows you to treat diffuse redness and mild hyperpigmentation.”

IRIDEX recently introduced the ClearView headset which combines illumination, magnification, polarization control and integrated eye safety filters for improved visualization of the operative field. “This polarized lighting system increases the visualization of small wrinkles and telangiectasis on the face and legs,” said Jean Luc Levy, M.D., a dermatologist in private practice in Marseille, France. “Previously, vessels under 0.2 mm were very difficult to see. But now these vessels are very easy to observe.”

The lightweight (200 gm), comfortable headset has adjustable polarization that can be set to eliminate surface reflection for better visualization into the dermis. Surface structures can also be visually enhanced. “The ClearView is very focalized and magnified on the skin,” Dr. Levy said. “The integrated eye filters also have two wavelengths: 532 nm and 940 nm. Narrow band, color balancing coatings provide an unmatched clarity of view. The color distortion normally introduced by separate laser safety glasses is eliminated.”

Dr. Levy expects that the ClearView will increase his treatment accuracy and enhance patient outcomes. “Physician comfort should also improve and reduce procedure time,” he said. The ClearView can be used in conjunction with sclerotherapy as well. ■

