

# Solis Pulsed Light System Makes Large Area Epilation Fast and Painless

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor

Released at this year's AAD in New Orleans, the Solis is a new intense pulsed light (IPL) device from Laserscope (San Jose, Calif.). The system stands out from its competitor with its large spot, integrated cooling and quick repetition rate. The intersection of these benefits enables the physician to treat far more patients each day than with a traditional laser of IPL.

**"The Solis was** designed from the ground up to be the most rapid means of hair removal for large areas," said Robert Weiss, M.D., an assistant professor of dermatology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. "We can do an entire back in about 15 to 20 minutes, compared to other devices that can take anywhere from 30 minutes to two hours."

The method of cooling is also "very different from all other IPLs," Dr. Weiss noted. "Instead of contact cooling, the Solis uses dynamic spray cooling. The advantage of spray cooling is that the skin can become much

**"We can do an entire back in about 15 to 20 minutes, compared to other devices that can take anywhere from 30 minutes to two hours."**

colder because the reduction in temperature is over a shorter period of time and coincides with the light pulse. Hence, the patient feels virtually nothing."

**An initial clinical** trial of ten patients treated for hair with the Solis found that at three months there was about 30% hair reduction. "We only conducted one treatment session," Dr. Weiss reported. "In clinical practice, however, patients will likely require a series of three to five sessions, spaced every two and a half to three months when treating the back."

Dr. Weiss also uses the Solis for some pigmentation. "Lentiginos, for example, can be treated in one to



Robert Weiss, M.D.

two sessions, one month apart. The results are excellent." One possible future indication for the Solis is "full photorejuvenation, including telangiectasia, pigmentation and skin smoothing."

**"It's great to** finally have a system that can drive a 10.64 cm<sup>2</sup> spot size at approximately 1 Hz pulse repetition rate," stated William Baugh, M.D., an assistant clinical professor of dermatology at the University of

**"By cooling the skin sufficiently with dynamic spray cooling, the heat and energy derived from the Solis is dissipated."**

California, Irvine. "This is going to make hair removal a lot more fun and practical. There is a huge time savings for both the patient and the physician."

A 590 nm optical filter allows the longer, protective wavelengths to be used for hair reduction, along with less surface skin interaction. "Thus, the safety of the Solis is increased," Dr. Baugh said. "And yet you're still able to target deeper structures." Moreover Dr. Baugh initially thought the Solis would be very painful for the patient. "But the opposite is true. The Solis is less painful than other similar devices." No topical anesthetic is needed to relieve discomfort, which also reduces treatment time. "By cooling the skin sufficiently with dynamic spray cooling, the heat and energy derived from the Solis is dissipated."



William Baugh, M.D.

**The 530 nm** filter is suitable for photorejuvenation. "You can treat the neck, the chest and forearms very quickly," Dr. Baugh conveyed. "One treatment may be all that is needed, but a series is usually recommended." For both hair and photorejuvenation, clinical results "have been excellent. Even at its highest setting, the Solis demonstrates minimal to no negative skin changes. Also, there is no hyperpigmentation or blistering." ■