

Candela's Vbeam Perfecta Revolutionary PDL Technology

By Kevin A. Wilson, Contributing Editor

Taking the traditional 595 nm pulse dye laser (PDL) to a new level, the Vbeam Perfecta from Candela Corporation (Wayland, Mass.) treats pigmented and vascular lesions with equal efficacy and without purpura. This is made possible through advanced micro-pulse technology, which delivers energy in eight mini-pulses instead of four. Pulse duration is variable (0.45 ms to 40 ms) and new handpieces offer additional spot size options. The Vbeam Perfecta also features Candela's proprietary dynamic cooling device with user adjustable delay and spray duration.

"I've been using PDL for many years and the Vbeam Perfecta is a true leap in technology," said Eric F. Bernstein, M.D., medical director of the Centers for Cosmetic Laser Surgery in Bryn Mawr, Penn. "I use this device more than any other because of its versatility, safety and efficacy. With the compression handpiece it's better for pigmentation than the first generation product and it's greatly improved for vascular lesions of all types because 100% of the energy is absorbed by the hemoglobin."



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Although PDL has traditionally been the gold standard for vascular lesions, Dr. Bernstein believes the Vbeam Perfecta is a top photorejuvenation laser as well. "My most popular indication is facial photodamage with telangiectasia. The wavelength is ideal for the veins, but by treating just under the purpura threshold I see a hive response, indicating inflammation which causes some skin tightening and pore shrinkage."

According to Dr. Bernstein, energy delivery options with the Vbeam Perfecta are what separate it from competing devices of any wavelength. "With eight subpulses and a vast range of pulse durations, Perfecta is heads above previous generation devices. It's very powerful, but safe," Dr. Bernstein noted. "Since it can



Before Tx

Photos courtesy of Eric Bernstein, M.D.

deliver energy in a long pulse, for example, I can make linear veins disappear right before my eyes without purpura, like I used to with the KTP laser.

For photodamage, I typically treat during the same session, but with a shorter pulse duration to the entire face, resulting in a reduction in diffuse erythema, some skin tightening and pore reduction. Shorter pulse durations are also best for treating port-wine stains, scars, cherry angiomas and certain other vascular lesions."

Dr. Bernstein acknowledges Vbeam as far superior to IPL for vascular lesions and rejuvenation. "It is a commonly held perception that IPL is the safe device that you

"Vbeam Perfecta is a top photorejuvenation laser and is dramatically safer and significantly simpler to use than IPL."



Before Tx

Photos courtesy of Eric Bernstein, M.D.



After Tx

can hand off to ancillary staff, but Vbeam Perfecta is dramatically safer and significantly simpler to use," he said. "Vbeam Perfecta's single wavelength enables much easier prediction of patient response than IPL, which is a broad spectrum light."

"If you want to know how good this device is, treat patients with it," Dr. Bernstein said. The payoff, in satisfaction as well as the pocketbook, is in the patient's reaction to treatment. "Patients know very quickly what works and what doesn't work, and how they feel about it. That's why Vbeam Perfecta is the workhorse of my practice."

"Above all, I recommend Vbeam Perfecta to new or established laser practitioners for rejuvenation and vascular lesions," Dr. Bernstein stated. "It offers the greatest efficacy with the least side effects. In an aesthetic practice there is no substitute for high safety and low downtime."



After Tx