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Max 7 LED System Provides Seven Preprogrammed Treatments

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor

The Max 7 is a new light emitting diode (LED) system from Flip4 (Sainte-Julie, Quebec, Canada) for facial skin rejuvenation that features seven preprogrammed polychromatic treatments.

"We have seven different wavelengths in our device, ranging from 400 to 700 nm," said Jennifer Brodeur, owner and cofounder of Flip4, a technology development company focused on the medical spa market. "These wavelengths consist of violet, blue, aqua, green, yellow, orange and red." The intensity of the 180 LEDs also vary; however, "the overall intensity is no higher than a high-intensity household light bulb," Ms. Brodeur explained.

Priced at \$19,950 (U.S. dollars), the Max 7 operates with a unique robotic arm. This robotic arm incorporates the LEDs and a specially designed lens to create a concentrated beam of light which gently sweeps across the patient's face and décolleté region. "The system is all preprogrammed for the technician," Ms. Brodeur said. "There is no manual labor involved."

A total of seven specific polychromatic treatments are already preprogrammed: normal combination skin, dry skin, oily skin, mature skin, fatigued skin, blemished skin, and sensitive skin. "Within a specific treatment, one to five wavelengths are activated, one after another, that work in synergy," according to Ms. Brodeur. "This is an important distinction from other LED systems on the market." Treatment protocols range from 15 minutes for normal combination skin to 31 minutes for blemished skin. The Max 7 also has a monochromatic mode.

DeAnn Mix, Ph.D., is the CEO of Clinique Ergonique, a franchise of complete one-stop medical spas headquartered in Newport Beach, Calif. "LED represents the lower power level of our light devices for facial applications. Lower-density light stimulates the healing of the tissue or

addresses the condition we are treating. For example, each vessel treatment with LED results in a minute collapse of the vessel. Over a series of sessions, you will achieve a collapsed vessel, but laser and most other light-based treatments are more intense and invasive. LED, on the other hand, is designed to be used primarily in a program or series of treatments, which fits well into today's aesthetic demands from patients."

Dr. Mix, along with Alex Martin, M.D., chief medical director at Clinique Ergonique, has carefully evaluated Max 7 and experimented with various treatment protocols. "In our studies, we tried weekly sessions, twice a week, three times a week and five times a week," Dr. Mix said. "Depending on the condition of the skin, the most effective schedule we've found is for patients to come in two or three times a week. Most patients are on an eight week program. After a series of treatments (each lasting about 25 minutes), patients can expect results that closely resemble an intense beam of light, such as a 1064 nm laser. In addition, Clinique Ergonique blends in enhancers, such as an enzyme that helps in exfoliation. We achieve great exfoliation due to the enzymes we use that only target dead cells. We use this with the Max 7 to get exfoliation without crusting or downtime. The pH also actually becomes more balanced as the skin becomes healthier. Skin immediately looks brighter. The Max 7 leaves the normal cells alone, while targeting mainly the dead cells. In contrast, laser therapy and glycolic applications target both normal and damaged cells."

Dr. Mix also noted that the design of the Max 7 makes it very easy to use. "It is all computerized and simple to change from one program to another. As you advance in your knowledge of how to operate the device, you can create your own combinations." ■