

MIRA  
CLINIC

*Everything you need  
to know about*

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TATTOO REMOVAL



## LASER TATTOO REDUCTION

Tattoos are meant to last forever, but sometimes it would be good if they didn't! Whether you wish to erase a mistake or fade a tattoo to make way for better artwork, laser tattoo reduction may be the solution you are looking for.

At MIRA Clinic we have a medical class Laser called the "Enlighten 3" manufactured by Cutera. This is a Class 4 laser and in Western Australia this type of Laser can only be operated by a Laser qualified medical doctor in a Laser licensed premises.

The laser sends a very short powerful beam of laser light through your skin and into your tattoo which causes the ink particles in the tattoo to be broken up into smaller particles. Each Laser pulse works on a few millimetres of your tattoo, so multiple pulses are needed to cover your tattoo. When the ink particles become small enough, cells in your body called macrophages are able to swallow the particles and these are slowly transported and excreted through your lymphatic system.

## YOUR CONSULTATION

At your first consultation, we undertake to give you the best advice that we can based upon our extensive experience using this equipment. At the consultation, you will learn more about the treatment process and the expected outcomes. If you decide to go ahead with treatment it is usually possible to do so during the same appointment as the consultation.

# RESULTS

Improvement may not be seen in the tattoo or lesion for up to six weeks after a treatment. These Laser treatments should normally be repeated at six-week intervals. Continued improvement can occur for several months after treatment.



## ACTUAL MIRA CLINIC PATIENTS



Before

BEFORE  
Before first treatment  
© MIRA Clinic

After

AFTER  
After 5 treatments  
© MIRA Clinic

Before First Treatment

After 5 treatments



Before

BEFORE  
Before first treatment  
© MIRA Clinic

After

AFTER  
After 7 treatments  
© MIRA Clinic

After

AFTER  
After 7 treatments  
© MIRA Clinic

Before First Treatment

After 7 treatments with  
Elighten Laser

ACTUAL MIRA CLINIC PATIENTS



Pre-treatment



After 4 Enlighten treatments



Before First Treatment



After 7 treatments



Before First Treatment



After First Treatment



After 9 treatments

## AFTERCARE

Compliance with the aftercare guidelines is crucial for healing, prevention of scarring, and prevention of hyperpigmentation. Aftercare guidelines include avoiding the sun for 2 months after each procedure. If it is necessary to be in the sun, a sunscreen with SPF 25 or greater must be used. Occasionally treatments will result in blistering or scab formation and will require care with dressings and anti-bacterial ointments while they are healing. Full details of how to care these outcomes are given to you at the time of your consultation.



### **WILL THE LASER TATTOO REDUCTION TREATMENT CAUSE SCARRING?**

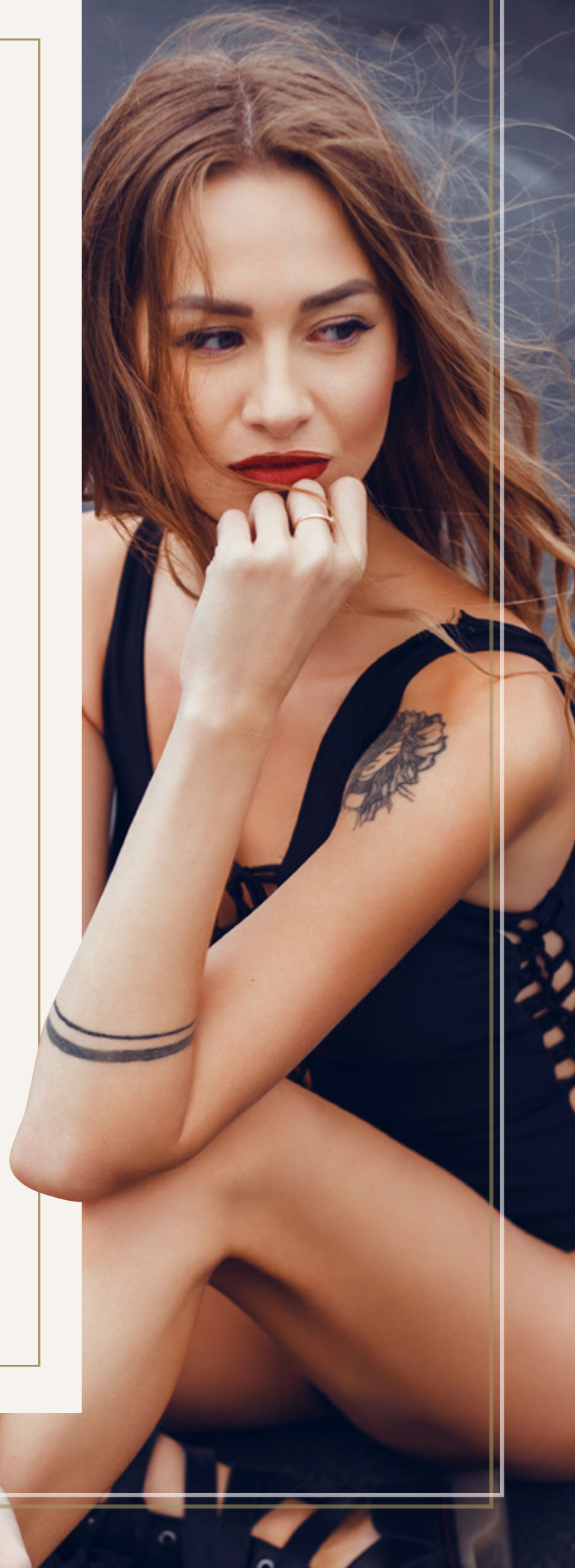
Yes, there is a risk of scarring, but scarring does not usually occur as a result of this treatment. The risk of scarring (in particular raised scars) despite proper laser treatments exists in all cases, but can be reduced by carefully following your after care instructions, and by notifying our clinic if any problems develop. Scarring is more likely to occur if after care advice is not followed. Scarring may already be present as a result of the initial tattoo process and then become visible once the ink starts to fade.

## WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?

Short term effects may include reddening, mild burning, temporary bruising or blistering. Pinpoint bleeding is rare but can occur following treatment procedures. A brownish/red darkening of the skin (known as hyperpigmentation) or lightening of the skin (known as hypopigmentation) may occur. This usually resolves in weeks, but it can take up to 3-6 months to heal. Permanent colour change is a rare risk. Loss of freckles, or other pigmented lesions as well as hair can occur in the treatment area.

Allergic Reactions following treatment is extremely rare, but there have been reports of hypersensitivity to the various tattoo pigments during the tattoo removal process especially if the tattoo pigment contained Mercury, cobalt or chromium. Upon dissemination, the pigments can induce an allergic reaction that can occur with each successive treatment.

Textual and/or colour changes in the skin can occur and can be permanent. Many of the cosmetic tattoos and body tattoos are made with iron oxide pigments. Iron oxide can turn red-brown or black. Titanium oxide and other pigments may also turn black. This black or dark colour may be un-removable. Because of the immediate whitening of the exposed treated area by the laser, there can be a temporary obscuring of ink, which can make it difficult or impossible to notice a specific colour change from the tattoo removal process.



## **IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET AN INFECTION AFTER LASER TATTOO REDUCTION TREATMENT?**

Although infection following treatment is unusual, infections can occur. Herpes simplex virus infections (cold sores) around the mouth can occur following a treatments close to this area. Should any type of skin infection occur, additional treatments or antibiotics may be necessary. Please contact us if you have any concerns that any of these problems may be occurring.



## **HOW MANY TREATMENTS WILL BE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE DESIRED RESULTS?**

No guarantee, warranty or assurance will be made as to the final results that may be obtained. Complete tattoo removal is not always possible as tattoos were meant to be permanent and sometimes the best we can achieve is a fainter appearance of the original tattoo pattern.



### **ARE THERE ANY OTHER RISKS?**

There is a risk of accidental eye injury if struck by any laser beam. This is unlikely since complete eye protection is provided at all times during laser treatments. We require you to follow your doctor's instructions and to wear the provided eye protection and to not remove it until your doctor says it is safe to do so.

## IF I AM INTERESTED, WHAT NOW?

Your first step is an initial consultation with Dr Andrew Clark.

If you have a GP referral you will be able to claim some of the cost of the consultation from Medicare. If the doctor decides you are a suitable candidate for Tattoo Removal and you want to go ahead, a booking for the procedure will be scheduled.



### CONSULTATIONS

You may wish to speak with our Nurse Consultant prior to seeing the doctor.

**PHONE (08) 6436 3888 TO BOOK YOUR CONSULTATION**

During this consultation in our office, the Nurse Consultant can discuss the procedure and provide you with written information.

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