

ST LEONARDS DERMATOLOGY AND LASER

BROADBAND LIGHT (BBL)- SCITON

Broadband light or BBL is a comprehensive phototherapy system that incorporates dual flashlamp technology, interchangeable filter, snap on adapters and a precise thermoelectric cooling system for safe, effective and easy use.

BBL light energy allows your clinician to design treatments personalised for your skin, it is non-invasive so you can receive comfortable and effective treatments to fit your schedule.

BBL is innovative technology that sets new standards for the treatment of skin conditions associated with aging, active lifestyles and sun damage. Broadband light energy can be used to treat any area of the body.

Conditions that can be treated are:

- Age spots.
- Fine wrinkles.
- Small facial veins (telangiectasia).
- Rosacea.
- Redness and flushing.
- Port wine stains.
- Acne.
- Red spots (haemangiomas).
- Solar lentigines (freckles).
- Brown spots.
- Uneven skin texture.
- Large pores.
- Poikiloderma.
- Skin laxity.
- Remove unwanted dark hair.

Contraindications are:

- Patients who have a history of abnormal response to sunlight.
- Patients who use photosensitising medications or drugs.
- Patients who have used Isotretinoin (Roaccutane) within the last 6-12 months.
- Patients who are pregnant.
- Patients who use anticoagulant medications or heavy Aspirin use.
- Patients with active infections and/or compromised immune systems.
- Patients with a history of skin cancer, especially malignant melanoma without prior skin checks with a dermatologist.
- Patients who have a history of keloid scar formation.
- Patients who are skin type VI (black).

Complications and/or risks involved:

As with any therapy scarring is possible but a rare event also any injury may cause infection but unusual following BBL treatment.

Patterning is possible after the first treatment but usually clears on subsequent visits.

Pigmentary changes such as hyperpigmentation or hypopigmentation may occur. Some patients develop raised urticaria (similar to hives). This irritation usually subsides in a few hours.

Purpura, a purplish bruising may occur in the treated area. These bruises may last for 1-2 weeks and could occur from the use of anticoagulant medications.

Swelling around the eyes and bridge of the nose may occur immediately after BBL treatment and may remain for 24-48 hours.

Finally, whilst not a side effect response to treatment, is often partial or not completely clear, however improvement is often evident.

A full analysis of your skin type will be taken prior to any procedures. An informed consent to be signed stating you have read the literature and understand the procedure, the possible risks and complications and that all your questions were answered prior to any treatment.

Pictures will be taken before and after your procedure but not used for any other purpose than for our records, unless you give your signed consent.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How does BBL work?

BBL deposits pulses of light energy that gently heats the upper layers of skin. Within the skin, the light energy is absorbed by targets, such as fine, broken vessels that cause redness and brown spots or pigmented lesions that are caused by overproduction of melanin. This scientific and biological process destroys the target, eliminating it from the skin and restoring it to its natural beauty, blending its natural tones, making it more vibrant and youthful in appearance and touch.

How many treatments will I need?

The number of treatments needed varies from patient to patient and your clinician will personalise a treatment plan based on your skin defects and the level of improvement you desire. Your clinician will discuss all of your options with you.

What will happen during the procedure?

Your eyes will be protected with safety shields or glasses. It is a very bright light but your eyes are well protected although you maybe aware of the light, it will do you no harm. You may briefly feel a warm or “rubber band snap” sensation as the light is absorbed by the targeted areas. The procedure is gently, non-invasive and safe, and generally there is no need for topical anaesthetic but your clinician may choose to use it on more sensitive areas.

What should I expect after treatment?

You may experience some redness and or swelling in the area treated. Also some tightness or slight tingling maybe present for a few hours or up to 24 hours after the procedure. Pigmented lesions will darken and gradually flake off and fade over the next 7-10 days. Often the treated skin will feel smoother, fine lines and pores begin to be less noticeable, and sunspots or uneven pigmentation will fade. Results depend on your skin’s condition, the number of treatments, and the area treated. This is a non-invasive and gentle procedure with virtually no downtime. In most cases, you are able to return to work, apply makeup, and resume most of your activities immediately.

Often we would bring you back for review in approximately 2 weeks. Your procedure may take a few minutes or half an hour depending on the size of the area to be treated and the type of procedure performed. Your clinician will provide you with complete information about the post treatment care and results.

Will insurance cover this procedure?

Phototherapy treatments, like other cosmetic procedures, are not usually covered by your insurance company. If you have any questions, it is best to talk with your provider.