FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT LASER HAIR REMOVAL

What type of hair can be removed by laser hair removal?
The laser is attracted to pigment in the hair follicle so hair has to be dark or some shade of brown. The laser does not see blond, gray, or white hair. Hair from nearly anywhere on the body can be removed with a laser.

How many treatments will I need?
Approximately five treatments are needed. The number of treatments is dependent on hair color, skin type and individual characteristics.

How much time is needed between treatments?
Treatments are spaced six to eight weeks apart.

Why can’t I pluck or wax before a laser treatment?
When you pluck or wax, you are pulling the hair directly out of the hair follicle and removing the pigment which is needed for the laser to target. If plucking or waxing has been done, four weeks is required for all the hairs to come into the active growth phase. During this four week period the patient can shave the area.

Why do I shave prior to treatment?
Patients need to shave prior to treatment because the laser needs to sit directly on the skin and all of the laser energy needs to go to the growth center in the base of the hair follicle. Hair acts as a barrier and traps the heat, causing skin to burn underneath.

Is laser treatment painful?
When the laser is fired, it feels like a rubber band snap or a pinprick with a little electrical charge. A topical anesthetic is available if you think it will be needed. Patients have found using the topical beneficial when the treatment area is large in size, sensitive (bikini or underarm), or when the hair is dense or coarse.

What will the skin look like after treatment?
Following treatment, the area looks red, puffy, slightly raised- much like an average mosquito bite. It may also feel like a light sunburn. This reaction lasts from one to three days. Generally, the first reaction is the worst because of the amount of hair that is treated.

When will the hair fall out of the follicle?
Three to seventeen days after a treatment the hairs that are under the skin surface begin to eject from the hair follicle. These hairs look like stubble and about two weeks after the treatment they will fall out and you will have a period of no hair. The new growth cycle will start about four to six weeks after your last treatment.

What is the difference between the LightSheer laser and other lasers?
The LightSheer is the only laser that has been approved by the FDA for permanent hair reduction. The laser can eliminate 80-90% of hair. The hair remaining is often softer in texture and lighter in color. The LightSheer is the most technologically advanced and safest laser available to date. The LightSheer was made just for hair removal; other lasers have been made for tattoo and varicose vein removal. The LightSheer laser also has a cooling tip, which reduces the chance of outer layer burning of the skin.