

# Idaho Dermatologic Surgery and Laser Center

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[www.iddersurgery.com](http://www.iddersurgery.com)

## Matrix Fractional CO2 Laser

### Post Treatment Instructions

#### What to expect after the treatment

Immediately after the treatment, your skin will feel warm. Ice packs and cool wash cloths are helpful. Once the skin is cool, petroleum jelly is applied.

The day after the treatment, the skin will feel somewhat swollen and red. You may experience points of bleeding and oozing of clear fluid. Follow the wound care instructions below.

The second and third days, the skin will feel tight. You will experience a peeling of the superficial layer of skin. Continue the wound care.

The skin will continue to be pink for the next week or so.

Because this treatment stimulates the skin to produce more collagen, you will continue to have improvement for the next 6 months.

Additional treatments, if desired, can be performed no earlier than 8 weeks from the previous treatment.

#### Wound care instructions

As soon as the skin is cool after the treatment, apply petroleum jelly to the treated skin surface.

If your body can tolerate it, you may take ibuprofen or Tylenol every 4-6 hours for discomfort after the procedure.

Continue to take the prescribed medications until gone.

For the first three days, wash off the petroleum jelly three times a day with dilute vinegar water.

Dilute vinegar water is made by diluting 1/3 cup white vinegar with 1 quart of cool water. Keep this in a covered container for use during the first three days. This solution is antibacterial, soothing to the skin, and will help exfoliate the top layer of skin.

When the skin begins to peel on days 2-4, you can gently wash it in the shower to help remove the peeling skin. Be gentle, do not rub or pick at the peeling skin.

Once the peeling skin is off, you can stop using the petroleum jelly, and apply cosmetics, lotions or sunscreen to the area. Remember, NO sun exposure while the skin is still pink.

**If you experience any unexpected side effects, call our office at 208-327-9521.**