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**Hyperpigmentation after epilation with Alexandrite laser**

Elmijola Janushaj[1], Luljeta Jaupaj[2]

[1]Dok_derma, Dermatology and Dermo-esthetics, Tirana, Albania, [2]Eye Lider Clinic, Ophtalmology, Fier, Albania

**Introduction**: Epilation with laser is one of the most required treatments the last decade and is estimated to grow the following years. Despite the great results and the long experience in the field, still there are cases with burning and pigmentation post laser treatments. Although is a reversible side effect, patients are often concerned about their outcome.

**Results:** Our case is a female patient, skin type IV, underwent Alexandrite laser treatment for hair removal. The areas treated were the face, arms, armpits, bikini and legs. Intensity energy 10-12 J/cm2, 3 ms, 2 Hz was used, cooling 40/30 front and during process, hand piece size 18 for the legs and 12 for the face and armpits. The same program was used for all areas – Medium colored, Medium coarse hair, Skin type IV, No tan. There was no concern during the procedure, exception bikini area, which was more sensitive. The first sessions were held every 8 weeks distant from each other. The sessions had satisfactory results. After 4 months in October, the patient appears to do the fourth session. Treatment protocol used for skin type IV, medium coloured, fine hair, no tan. The next day, the patient appears with skin burns, coin and rings shaped, dark in colour, localized all over the forearms and the upper legs. She was asked if she had taken any pill or exposed to sun. She denied she may have taken any medication or been exposed to sun or tanning bed. The face, axillary and bikini area had no concern at all. The burn spots were covered with a crust, which after a few days was replaced by erythematous, paler spots. The patient was advised not to be exposed to the sun until the hyperpigmentation subsided and to use a cream with hyaluronic acid and silver sulfadiazine, once daily. To continue with an emollient based only with hyaluronic acid to nourish the skin and keep it hydrated. It was recommended not to perform laser sessions until the situation calms down completely. After a few weeks, the hyperpigmentation was replaced by hypopigmentation, which persisted for a long time. During this time, the patient was advised to start sun exposure every day. After 6 months, the skin does not have any hyperpigmentation/ hypopigmentation elements in the problem areas. Because of the presence of some fine, thin hairs and despite the side effect happened, at her request she underwent a low-intensity laser session, considering as a skin type V at 8 J/cm2. There were no side effects at all and the skin's reaction was good.

**Conclusion**: Epilation with laser is a treatment that requires proper training. It is important to adapt the right intensity according the phototype of the skin, the characteristics of the hairs (colour, width, type) and the anamnesis of the patients (medication, exposures). Follow up with the right recommendations help to improve and get the right outcomes, even if it takes time.

**Keyword**: Epilation, laser, hyperpigmentation