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PATIENT INFORMED CONSENT - CUTERA PEARL FRACTIONAL LASER TREATMENT OF THE SKIN

I hereby authorize Lakes Dermatology staff to perform skin resurfacing treatment with an ablative laser. The procedure involves using a laser whose light is absorbed by the water in our skin and heats up. As a result, a portion of the outermost layer of your skin will slough (peel) off over a period of many days. I understand that the results may be temporary or permanent and that there is no way to predict how long the results will last. I understand that it may take multiple treatments and that no guarantees can be made.

The procedure may result in the following adverse experiences or risks:

- **DISCOMFORT/PAIN** - Some discomfort and/or pain may be experienced during treatment. Pain may include the feeling of burning, stinging, and radiating pain. A topical anesthetic will be applied to your skin prior to the treatment.
- **REDNESS/SWELLING** – Redness (erythema) and/or swelling (edema) of the treated area is common and may occur. Swelling usually resolves in a few days and erythema usually resolves in 2-3 weeks.
- **SKIN COLOR CHANGES** - During the healing process, there is a possibility that the treated area may become either lighter (hypopigmentation) or darker (hyperpigmentation) in color compared to the surrounding skin. This is usually temporary, but on rare occasion, may be permanent.
- **MILIA/ACNE** - Ointments that occlude hair follicles, sweat ducts, and/or sebaceous ducts may lead to milia/acne formation. This is more common in patients with a history of oily skin or cystic acne.
- **WOUNDS** - Treatment can result in burning, blistering, or bleeding of the treated areas. It is important that you do not pick or scratch the sites as this may lead to permanent scars or promote infection.
- **INFECTION** - Infection is a possibility whenever the skin surface is disrupted, although proper wound care should prevent this. If signs of infection develop, such as pain, heat, blisters, or surrounding redness, please call our office at 651-340-1064.
- **CONTACT/ALLERGIC DERMATITIS OR SKIN SENSITIVITY** - Potential increased sensitivity, irritation/itching or allergic reaction of the skin due to skin surface disruption may occur.
- **SCARRING** - Scarring is a rare occurrence, but it is a possibility if the skin surface is disrupted. To minimize the chances of scarring, it is *IMPORTANT* that you follow all post-treatment instructions provided by your healthcare staff.
- **TREATMENT PATTERN** - A persistent spot size pattern may be apparent on the treatment area. This is usually temporary, but on rare occasion, may be permanent.
- **PETECHIAE** – Petechiae (small red or purple spots on the skin) may appear for several weeks after healing and clear without treatment.
- **DILATED PORES** - Collagen contraction that occurs as part of the resurfacing process may also contract the skin between the pores, which widens the existing pores. This occurrence, though rare, is permanent.
- **SUN EXPOSURE/TANNING BEDS/ARTIFICIAL TANNING** - May increase risk of side effects and adverse events.
- **EYE EXPOSURE**- Protective eyewear will be provided to you during the treatment. Failure to wear eye shields during the entire treatment may cause severe and permanent eye damage.

I acknowledge the following points have been discussed with me:

- Potential benefits of the proposed procedure, including the possibility that the procedure may not work for me
- Alternative treatments
- Reasonably anticipated health consequences if the procedure is not performed
- Possible complications/risks involved with the proposed procedure and subsequent healing period

For women of childbearing age: By signing below I confirm that I am not pregnant and do not intend to become pregnant anytime during the course of treatment. Furthermore, I agree to keep Lakes Dermatology staff informed should I become pregnant during the course of treatment.

The nursing staff will have you sign the electronic consent form once you are brought back to your room. Feel free to ask any questions at that time.

