Reply to: Cohen and Ross: “Laser-Induced Chrysiasis: A Unique Adverse Event Associated with Q-Switched Lasers”

Tina S. Alster¹ · Monica K. Li²

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To the Editor,

We thank Cohen and Ross for their letter “Laser-Induced Chrysiasis: A Unique Adverse Event Associated with Q-Switched Lasers” [1]. While uncommon, this additional complication is worthy of inclusion as a possible undesirable outcome of Q-switched (or other short-pulsed) laser treatments. Chrysiasis is characterized by skin pigmentation due to deposition of gold pigment following long-term chrysotherapy [2]. Certainly, prevention of the phenomenon would be accomplished by obtaining a comprehensive medical history including any lifetime exposure to gold [3]. It is believed that cutaneous pigmentation appears immediately after Q-switched laser therapy due to reduction of the gold particle size [4]. Regrettably, management strategies for this phenomenon are case-based, making its avoidance of paramount importance [3, 5]. We appreciate the authors highlighting this potential untoward outcome and supplementing our collective knowledge of safe laser practices.

Declarations

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✉ Tina S. Alster
talster@skinlaser.com

¹ Washington Institute of Dermatologic Laser Surgery,
Washington, DC, USA

² City Medical Aesthetics Center, Vancouver, BC, USA