

# Sean Mogan MD

## Ocusight Eye Care Center

---

### Laser Skin Resurfacing: *General Information*

#### *What to expect after the procedure:*

In general you should expect to see an improvement in the texture, tone, pigment, pore size, and fine wrinkles within 1-2 weeks. Deeper lines and wrinkles will improve over 6 weeks to 6 months as new collagen is formed from the laser treatment. This is a slower process but most patients do notice changes every few days.

#### *Post-operative course:*

1. **Redness and swelling** are common. While swelling may resolve within 1-2 weeks, prolonged redness may last up to 3 months. This can be treated if needed.
2. **Exudates/bleeding/crusting.** Because the laser beam penetrates into the deep dermal layer, clear fluid (exudates) or blood may ooze onto your skin for the first 48 hours. Crusting or scabs may form if exudates or blood dries. Keeping the treated area moist helps prevent crusting which can lead to subsequent scarring.
3. **Pain** may linger after the procedure is completed, though this is quite rare. Most patients note no pain once the laser treatment is over.
4. Risk of **infection** from bacterial, viral or fungal agents exists despite our best preventative effort. Hand washing and avoidance of dirty environs is extremely important.
5. **Scarring** may occur from crusting, infection, or simply being exposed to laser. This is also quite rare as one of the uses of the laser is to treat scarring.
6. **Pigmentary changes:** After treatment, the skin may appear darker (hyper-pigmentation) or lighter (hypo-pigmentation) than before. Although most changes are transient, it could be permanent.
7. **Itching** may occur as part of infection, poor wound healing, contact dermatitis, but most commonly it is a normal part of the wound healing process.
8. **Ectropion:** Rarely, a downward pull of the eyelids can result after treating the around-the-eye area.
9. **Acne or milia formation:** Flare-up of acne or formation of milia due to use of semi-occlusive dressing Aquaphor.
10. **Non-responsiveness** to laser treatment: Your skin condition may not get corrected or may worsen.