

Laser Rosacea treatment



What is Rosacea?

Rosacea is primarily a disorder of the facial blood vessels that become hyper-responsive to triggers such as sun exposure, heat, rich foods, caffeine and alcohol. Rosacea typically consists of persistent redness on the cheeks, chin, forehead or nose. Occasionally Rosacea can occur on the chest, ears, neck and scalp. In some cases the eyes can also be affected appearing bloodshot, dry and swollen. As the disease progresses, small blood vessels and tiny pimples begin to appear on or around the reddened area; however, unlike acne, there are no blackheads. Some patients suffer from inflamed pustules or spots. The skin can become tender and sensitive to touch. In severe cases the nose can grow swollen and bumpy and form excess tissue (Rhinophyma).

How does the Laser treatment work?

At Kings Clinic we can treat Rosacea using our Nd:Yag Laser.

The Laser light travels through the skin and is absorbed by the blood within the targeted vessels whilst the adjacent tissues remain unaffected. The Nd:YAG laser heats the interior of the blood vessels as well as the vessel walls and the resulting heat coagulates or clots the blood and destroys the function of the vessel. Over time, the vessel is absorbed by the body (like a bruise) and disappears from sight. Laser treatment of Rosacea has been shown to be an effective way of both reducing visible blood vessels and reducing the thickening of the skin associated with Rhinophyma. To reduce the thickening of the skin around the cheeks and nose, an erbium laser is used as it is better for facial resurfacing.

You will be asked to keep your face as pale as possible by avoiding sun exposure before and during your course of treatment. At your first visit a patch test can be performed to check for any reaction your skin may have to the laser.

A week or more later the first full treatment is carried out. The whole of the affected area will be treated.

How long does treatment take?

Treatment takes approx 15 to 30 minutes and is typically 4 to 6 treatments performed at 2 to 6 weekly intervals. Clients may require several initial treatments and then return annually to treat new blood vessels. Our team of highly trained professionals will devise a tailored skin rejuvenation program for you.

Is treatment painful?

The treatment is generally well tolerated but some patients find it uncomfortable. Exposure is limited to an extremely short flash that feels like the snap of a rubber band. Reddening of the skin and a mild burning sensation may be felt for a while afterwards. Occasionally there is some swelling that will subside in a day or two. The beard area is avoided in men as the treatment may cause some

hair loss. Bruising is unlikely but if it occurs will settle in a few days. There is a chance that pigment changes may occur in the skin, either dark marks (hyperpigmentation), or pale marks (hypopigmentation). These are temporary and fade in 1 – 6 months.

When will I see results?

Improvement may continue for many weeks after the course has finished. Rosacea is a relapsing condition and this treatment improves the appearance but does not cure the Rosacea. If you have active inflammatory Rosacea then this will need to be controlled with medication before you can have laser treatment.

Acne Rosacea can also be a cause of Telangiectasiae (extra blood vessels), which can also be treated in the same way.

Are there any risks or side effects during or following treatment?

The risks associated with laser treatment will be explained to you and discussed in detail during your consultation. These risks are minimal and all laser operators at Kings Cosmetic Clinic are either Nursing or medically trained with additional training in laser treatment.

