

Baseline



Immediate Post
Treatment



6-8 Weeks Post
Treatment



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Tattoo
Removal

Are you or someone you know having second thoughts about a tattoo? You are not alone. Every day thousands of people live with this permanent reminder of a temporary feeling. But now you have options.

What are my options?

- Surgical excision
- Microdermabrasion
- Chemical Peels
- Laser removal

Unfortunately, excision, microdermabrasion and chemical peels are variably effective and carry a significant risk of permanent scarring.

The Candela Q-Switched Alexandrite TriVantage laser is the safest and most effective method of tattoo removal. It is the "gold standard" option that can virtually "erase" a tattoo for many. The Candela TriVantage laser used at Dermatology Associates of Wisconsin is the only laser of its kind in Northeast Wisconsin.

Does it hurt?

While there is some stinging involved, most patients feel that it is equivalent to a rubber band snap.

For some with large tattoos, or those who are uncomfortable with treatment, topical anesthetic gels or injected local anesthetic can be used.

What are the side effects?

- Redness lasting up to a few days
- Tenderness equal to that of a sunburn
- Slight temporary lightening (or less commonly darkening) of the skin
- Allergic reactions can occur, but are very rare



Pre-Treatment



Post Treatment #1



Post Treatment #2



Post Treatment #3



Post Treatment #4



Post Treatment #5



Post Treatment #6



Post Treatment #7 (final treatment)

How does the laser work?

The Q-Switched laser provides a burst of energy that is absorbed by the pigment of a tattoo and breaks it into tiny fragments allowing white blood cells, the body's natural cleaning system, to much more rapidly "chew up" the pigment and bring it away from the skin.

How many treatments are needed?

The number of treatments required largely depends on the density of the pigment and how long it has been since the tattooing was performed. For most patients, seeing dramatic results after 5-10 treatments is typical. Treatments are spaced about 4-6 weeks apart to maximally allow the body to absorb the pigment. Most treatments last less than 15 minutes, with some smaller tattoos taking as little as 5 minutes to complete.

Which colors can be treated?

Through the use of a special attachment piece, we are able to treat virtually any color. The only color that can not be treated by this laser or any other laser is white.

Photos are of actual Forefront Dermatology patient

