

**POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**  
**CO<sub>2</sub> LASER**

1. Apply antibacterial ointment, if needed (A&D, Bacracin, Polysporin).
2. Cover with telpha, spenco (second skin) or vigilon dressing for the first day. This cover is for protection.
3. Keep the site moist with ointment for the first ten days. Do not let the area get too dry. This is especially important during the first 48 hours. Your skin will start out with small blisters which will build up with fluid and appear totally blistered. DO NOT burst the blisters. This can last 5 – 7 days. The area will be very sensitive and when the fluid begins to drain, it may have the color of the ink used in a tattoo. As the skin dries, it will peel off.
4. You may shower, but do not scrub the laser treated area until it is healed.
5. You may feel discomfort for the first 24 hours and may need some non-aspirin pain medication.
6. The skin should heal normally within 10 to 14 days. Contact our office with any questions or concerns.
7. If treating a tattoo, it will appear foggy and begin the fading process over the next month. Fading is typically 30% to 50% with each treatment.