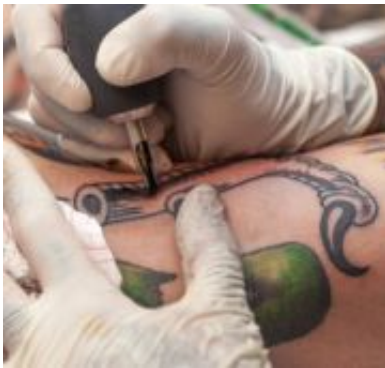


Picosecond-domain laser safe for removing decorative tattoos

July 20 2015



Picosecond-domain Nd:YAG laser incorporating a potassium-titanyl-phosphate frequency-doubling crystal is safe and effective for removing decorative tattoos, according to a study published online July 14 in *Lasers in Surgery and Medicine*.

(HealthDay)—Picosecond-domain Nd:YAG laser incorporating a potassium-titanyl-phosphate (KTP) frequency-doubling crystal is safe and effective for removing decorative tattoos, according to a study published online July 14 in *Lasers in Surgery and Medicine*.

Eric F. Bernstein, M.D., from the Main Line Center for Laser Surgery in Ardmore, Pa., and colleagues used a picosecond-domain Nd:YAG laser with a KTP frequency-doubling crystal to treat 31 decorative tattoos in 21 subjects. The authors examined the safety and effectiveness by blinded evaluation of [digital images](#).

The researchers found that after an average of 6.5 treatments, the average clearance overall was 79 ± 0.9 percent (mean \pm standard error of the mean). Evaluation of photographs showed evidence of mild hyper- or hypo-pigmentation in six of the 31 tattoos completing treatment.

"The results of this study demonstrate that this picosecond-domain, Nd:YAG [laser](#) is safe and effective for removing decorative tattoos," the authors write. "With more picosecond-domain devices entering the market, future applications of this technology should expand our already wide-array of treatment options for a myriad of conditions."

Two authors are employed by Syneron-Candela Corporation, which funded the study.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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Citation: Picosecond-domain laser safe for removing decorative tattoos (2015, July 20) retrieved 10 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-07-picosecond-domain-laser-safe-tattoos.html>

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