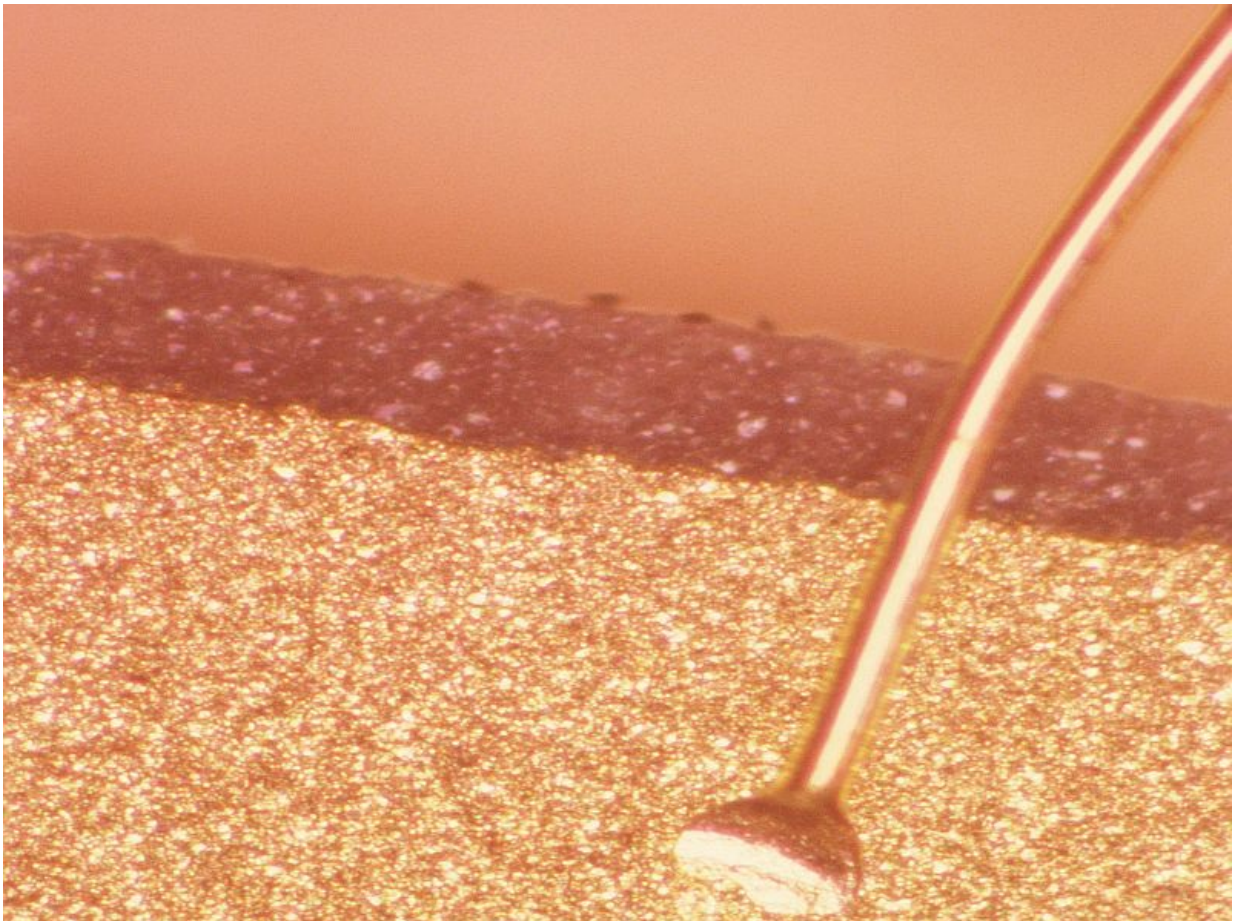


# Ablative fractionated laser Tx promising for actinic keratosis

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(HealthDay)—For patients with actinic keratoses (AKs), one treatment

with ablative fractionated laser (AFXL) produces a modest temporary reduction in AKs, according to a study published in the February issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

Stephanie D. Gan, M.D., from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and colleagues examined whether one treatment with AFXL could effectively treat facial AKs. Twelve [patients](#) were enrolled into a randomized, controlled, split-face study. Three of the patients were lost to follow-up.

The researchers found that at one month, there were significantly fewer AKs on the treatment side (47 versus 71 percent of baseline lesions); this difference was not sustained at three months (49 versus 57 percent). Most of the AKs that were cleared at one month were thin or grade I (73 versus 36 percent reduction in treated versus untreated;  $P = 0.002$ ). At the follow-up visits, there was very little change in the number of grade II and III AKs (6 versus 7 percent reduction in treated versus untreated;  $P = 0.94$ ). After [treatment](#) there was a trend toward decreased development of new lesions, although the difference did not reach statistical significance.

"Additional studies with a larger cohort, longer follow-up, and a more diverse patient population are needed to confirm the findings from this preliminary study," the authors write.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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