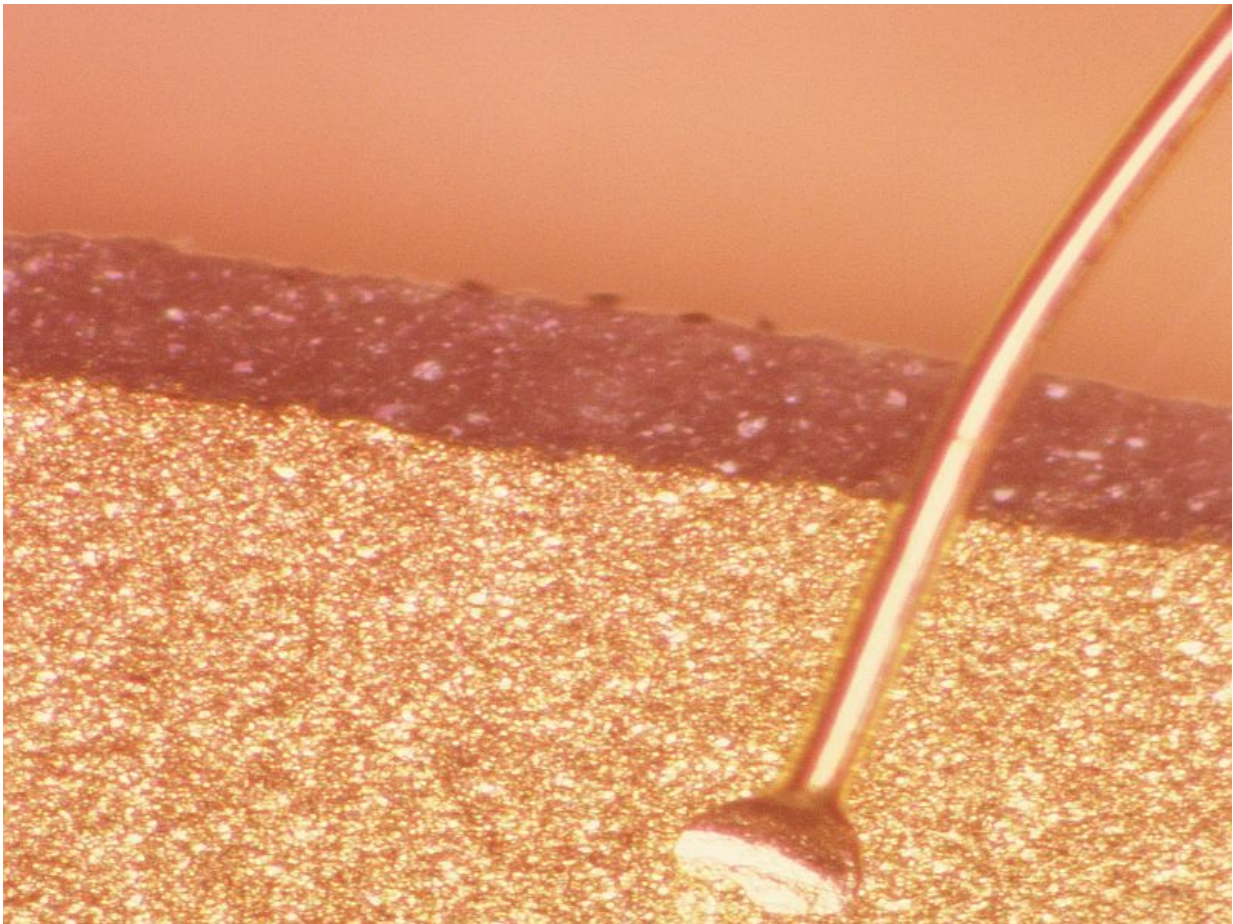


Fractional CO₂ beats silicone gel for elective surgery scars

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(HealthDay)—For elective surgery scars, application of super-pulsed

fractional CO₂ laser application improves the aesthetic quality of scars more than silicone gel, according to a study published online Jan. 24 in *Lasers in Surgery and Medicine*.

Luiz Ronaldo Alberti, M.D., Ph.D., from the School of Medicine at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil, and colleagues conducted a randomized prospective study involving 42 patients with recent [scars](#) of up to three weeks in patients with a I to IV Fitzpatrick skin phototype. The patients received either super-pulsed fractional CO₂ laser applications (10,600 nm fractional CO₂, set at a density of 20 percent and an energy of 10 mJ, a scanner of 03 × 03 mm, and a pulse repetition time of 0.3 seconds) or an application of [silicone gel](#) to the scar. The authors assessed the scars aesthetically by applying the Vancouver scale in the second and sixth months.

The researchers observed a discrete superiority in the laser group at two months of treatment, compared to the silicone group, in both the percentage and significance concerning flexibility (P = 0.05) and pigmentation (P = 0.01). In the sixth month, the laser group presented better results (P = 0.03).

"The early use of the fractional CO₂ [laser](#) contributed to improving the aesthetic quality of scars from elective surgeries in the second and in the sixth months," the authors write.

More information: [Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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