

Allergan buys fat-freezing company for \$2.5 bn

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Drug giant Allergan announced Monday the \$2.5 billion acquisition of Zeltiq Aesthetics, makers of a fast-growing technology to eliminate body fat through "CoolSculpting," which essentially freezes unwanted fat away.

The patented cooling <u>technology</u> permits patients to experience "body contouring" without surgery. The venture represents a "\$4 billion market opportunity worldwide and growing," according to Allergan, which is headquartered in Ireland.

The California-based company's process—"Cryolipolysis"—applies intense cold to an area, creating a sensation of numbness in the patient. The procedure involves no needles and allows patients to begin observing changes after three weeks, according to literature.

"By adding the best-in-class body contouring CoolSculpting System to our best-in-class facial aesthetics, <u>plastic surgery</u> and regenerative medicine offerings we are creating a world-class aesthetics business," said Brent Saunders, <u>chief executive</u> of Allergan, which also owns the anti-wrinkling injection technology.

The transaction must be approved by Zeltiq shareholders and is subject to regulatory review.

Shares of Zeltiq jumped 12.8 percent to \$55.70, while Allergan rose 0.9 percent to 248.55 in midday trading.



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