

Alma Lasers' New Pixel^{QSW} Tip Enables Non-Ablative Skin Remodeling

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Submental and neck region before Tx



Submental and neck region one week after one Pixel^{QSW} Tx
Photos courtesy of Kee Lee Tan, M.D.

The Q-switched laser module, available on Alma Lasers' (Buffalo Grove, Ill.) Harmony^{XL} platform, has added a pixelated tip as the latest upgrade in the company's arsenal of aesthetic technology. The Pixel^{QSW} expands Alma's Harmony^{XL} system to offer the advantages of non-ablative fractional skin remodeling treatments for various skin types and conditions.

Fractionated, non-ablative laser treatments deliver deeply targeted pulses to isolated locations. According to the manufacturer, by administering controlled dermal wounds (up to 2 mm in depth), without harming the overlying epidermis, Alma's Pixel^{QSW} takes non-ablative fractional skin remodeling to a new level. All stages of wound healing and skin remodeling occur under the biologic protection of an intact epidermis, thus the surrounding dermis is unaffected and allowed to heal naturally, with organic tightening of the skin and collagen regeneration.

“Many patients refuse to have any of the redness that often results from ablative resurfacing,” noted Martin Braun, M.D., co-founder of Vancouver Laser & Skin Care Centre (Vancouver, B.C., Canada). “The Pixel^{QSW} module for Harmony laser systems offers skin tone and textural improvements without pain or unsightly redness. My patients prefer simple treatments with no downtime.” Dr. Braun also likes the business model offered by the Harmony^{XL} system, “specifically the Pixel^{QSW}, as it does not require costly disposables or complex pre and post treatment care, and it can be used with any skin type.”

In contrast, ablative laser skin resurfacing vaporizes the entire upper dermis, leaving substantial wounds that require several days or weeks of

recovery time. Non-ablative fractionated treatments, such as those delivered by Alma's Pixel^{QSW} offer a valuable alternative within the aesthetic field.

As an aesthetic physician at Rejuvenate Clinic in Perth, Australia, Kee Lee Tan, M.D.'s goal is to help his patients fulfill their need for a better look or complexion without unnecessary invasive procedures. “Pixel^{QSW} is ideal for patients that do not yet require an ablative laser treatment, including patients with early signs of aging,” he advised. “Pixel^{QSW} is also ideal for patients who have had ablative treatments in the past and do not want to endure the post treatment redness again.”

Dr. Tan, a tutor and lecturer for the *International Academy of Cosmetic Medicine*, with extensive published research on microdermabrasion, also listed specific benefits gained from non-ablative laser treatments. “I choose to offer Pixel^{QSW} because it is pain free, with no downtime, and is safe for all skin types. As well, my clients see results after just three treatments that are especially safe for hotter climates.”

In addition to these advantages, there is the added factor of affordability. According to Dr. Tan, since treatment time with the Pixel^{QSW} laser is relatively fast – often less than ten minutes – and no disposables are required, he is able to offer treatments at a low cost.

Dr. Braun agreed. “As a physician, I feel good about being able to provide my patients with quick, inexpensive, non-invasive procedures that have great results,” he stated. “As a business owner, I know that nearly all the procedures we offer require multiple treatments. If they are not reasonably priced, few clients will be able to afford the maintenance.”