



## *Pigmentation*

### *What is Pigmentation?*

It is a condition caused by age, sun, heredity and/or hormones and can occur almost anywhere on the body. Pigmentation (generalized or as spots) can mar ones appearance, making one look older and be difficult to cover with make up. Darkness on the upper lip can cause a shadow which may look like a mustache.

### *What are some common names for pigmentation?*

- Freckles
- Solar lentigo
- Liver spots
- Pregnancy mask
- Melasma
- Seborrhic keratosis
- Sun spots
- Café au lait spots
- Post- trauma hyperpigmentation

### *How does the treatment work?*

The LASER works in one of two ways, depending on the settings used. The first we call photo coagulation. With photo coagulation the LASER breaks the pigment apart below the surface and as the skin sloughs, so does the pigment, leaving beautiful, more evenly toned skin. A second treatment used is photo bleaching. This is done with darker or tanned skin and gently lightens the lesion with each treatment.

### *When will I see results?*

Initially the pigmented spot will get darker or grayish. After the initial darkness, tone begins to improve. After 1-2 weeks the spot will lighten or disappear in the sloughing process. 3-6 treatments, spaced three weeks apart, are generally needed.

### *Does it hurt?*

At Body Perfect, we use a topical anesthetic applied to the area approximately 15 minutes prior to treatment, this reduces pain and makes the procedure very tolerable.

### *What are some risks/side effects?* (See risk of LASER hand out)

- Swelling-all clients are offered an antihistamine to reduce this risk
- Hypopigmentation-light spots

### *What are the benefits?*

- More evenly pigmented skin tone
- Make up covers better and less is needed
- Look younger

### *What are alternative treatments?*

- Bleaching creams
- Sunscreen
- Dermabrasion
- Acid peels

### *Questions*

This procedure has been explained to you in this hand out and by a Body Perfect professional. If you have any questions about this procedure, you may call Body perfect at 888-843-2039.