

Sciton's Broadband Light

Versatile and Cost Effective



Denise Baker, M.D.
Cosmetic Surgeon
Bradenton, FL

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Mark Hagberg, M.D.
Family Practitioner
Edina, MN

By Bob Kronemyer, Associate Editor

Sciton, Inc.'s (Palo Alto, Calif.) broadband light (BBL) component of the PROFILE Modular Laser Platform allows physicians to easily treat a host of popular cosmetic indications with speed, safety and patient comfort.

According to Mark Hagberg, M.D., who practices aesthetic medicine in Edina, Minn., the full-powered broadband pulsed light device "allows reduced redness of rosacea and flushing, as well as pigmentation due to sun (sun spots and age spots). Skin texture is improved as well." Standard treatment is one to three sessions, spaced two to four weeks apart. Unlike other intense pulsed light (IPL) technologies, which often require four to six treatments, "we rarely need to schedule more than three sessions to achieve the same or better results," he added.

Dr. Hagberg also prefers BBL to needle procedures. "On the face, you don't want little capillaries to be injected," he said. BBL features a series of interchangeable filters ranging from 420 nm to 695 nm on the same universal head. For lentigines and sun spots, he typically uses the 515 nm filter, whereas when treating redness the 560 nm filter is employed. "To change filters, you don't need to change handpieces," Dr. Hagberg explained. The size of a filter is about the same as a microscopic slide. "It is a very fast change," he said.

In addition, the large, aggressively-cooled sapphire crystal allows the skin surface to be protected before, during and after each pulse. "We normally set cooling between 5° and 20° to 25°," noted Dr. Hagberg, who uses the longer

wavelengths of the BBL's potent dual-lamp design for hair removal.

Economically, the portable BBL module is an ideal investment for first time buyers of aesthetic equipment because there are no per pulse charges or hidden handpiece charges. The single handpiece and all filters have unlimited pulses included in the system's "bumper-to-bumper", three-year warranty. There are also no consumables.

"I believe BBL is the most versatile tool in our armamentarium," stated Denise Baker, M.D., a cosmetic surgeon in private practice in Bradenton, Fla. "With one handpiece, I can change how I treat a multitude of targets. I can perform a complete facial or treat a targeted area in a very short time."

In Florida, hyperpigmentation is the major draw for BBL. "We also have a lot of rosacea and vascularities," Dr. Baker said. Patients may also have enlarged pore size and/or loose and sagging skin. "I can treat their red vascularity, their brown pigmentation and sagging skin all within a 20 minute appointment without using multiple machines. I don't have to reprep the patient." Depending on the target, Dr. Baker is comfortable using up to three or four filters per session. "These are very, very accurate filters," she said. Acne is treated with the 420 nm wavelength.

Patients can opt for a light or an aggressive treatment. "I ask my patients, 'Do you want a slow, gentle treatment (requiring several sessions), or do you want a Wow! treatment for maximum benefit in a short period of time?'" Dr. Baker said. Therapy can be fine tuned based on the patient's downtime/social calendar preference.



Before Tx

Photos courtesy of Mark Hagberg, M.D.



After one BBL Tx