



FemTouch™

Clinical Treatment Guide

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Epidemiology of vulvo vaginal atrophy (VVA)

Vulvo vaginal atrophy (VVA) affects up to 80% of post-menopausal women. The symptoms primarily include vaginal dryness, irritation, itching, dysuria, and dyspareunia. These symptoms can adversely affect interpersonal relationships, quality of life and sexual function ⁽¹⁾. The main cause for VVA is a drop in estrogen levels during menopause. The change in estrogen level causes the vaginal lining to become thinner, dryer and less elastic. As the urinary tract is also estrogen dependent and since the urethral epithelium originates from the same embryologic tissue as the vaginal epithelium, women with VVA may also have symptoms such as urge incontinence (UI) or stress urinary incontinence (SUI) ⁽¹⁾.

The efficacy of CO₂ laser in the treatment of VVA

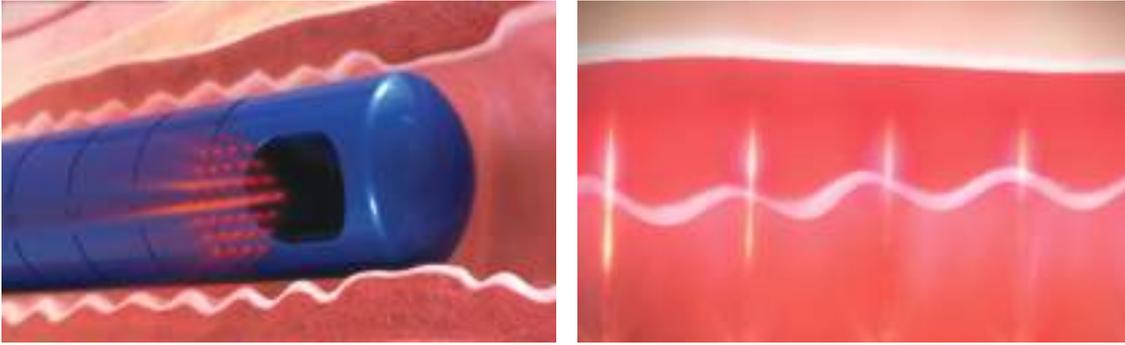
Laser-based technologies and especially fractional CO₂ lasers, have been proven to be safe and effective for a range of indications involving tissue remodeling over the past few decades.

Recent scientific literature shows that treatment with fractional CO₂ lasers can be used also for treatment of vaginal health related conditions and specifically that it significantly improves symptoms of VVA in post-menopausal women ⁽⁴⁻⁶⁾.

In addition to symptoms improvement, histological data indicate that fractional CO₂ lasers cause a thickening and a restoration of the vaginal mucosa ^(7, 8).

The FemTouch™ Procedure

- FemTouch™ is a new procedure for treatment of vaginal health related conditions using a dedicated vaginal probe used in conjunction with the AcuPulse™ fractional CO₂ laser system
- FemTouch™ delivers low continuous wave CO₂ energy levels in a fractional pattern along the vaginal lining. Uniform delivery of the fractional pattern is achieved through a unique scanner designed to scan microbeams of 210µm each in a controlled and uniform manner
- Controlled small ablation/coagulation zones are created in the lamina propria using energy levels from 7.5 to 12.5mJ. The restriction of these parameters allow to provide effective vaginal remodelling process while limiting penetration depth up to 600µm to ensure fibromuscular layer safety. The fractional scanning pattern enables a quicker vaginal tissue healing
- To complement the intra-vaginal treatment, an optional external treatment of the introitus and vaginal vestibule is possible using the AcuScan120™ Microscanner
- In order to achieve optimal results, typically 2-4 treatment sessions are required at 4 weeks interval
- The FemTouch™ procedure is short and takes approximately 5 minutes to complete (full scan along the vaginal wall)



FemTouch™ intended use

The Lumenis AcuPulse system and the FemTouch™ is cleared by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for a wide range of indications including, but not limited to, ablation, coagulation, incision, excision, and vaporization of soft tissue in medical specialties such as gynecology.

Patient population*

Menopausal transition to post menopause

- Patients presenting one or more symptoms of vaginal atrophy:
 1. Itchiness
 2. Burning sensation
 3. Decreased vaginal lubrication
 4. Dyspareunia
 5. Vaginal bleeding during sexual intercourse
- Patients with discomfort related to vaginal laxity

* Non exhaustive list. At the discretion of the Physician

Patient preparation*

- To exclude the presence of infections and any abnormality apart from atrophic vaginitis:
 - Pelvic exam must be performed
 - Papanicolaou test (PAP smear test) to meet national guidelines and standards
- For a better patient comfort, the patient will be preferably positioned as for a speculum exam with bended knees and feet in stirrups
- Patient with history of Herpes may be prescribed antiviral prophylaxis as per physician discretion
- Procedures are performed in ambulatory conditions and do not require analgesia nor anesthesia
- On patients with dryness of the vaginal canal, no extra preparation is required
- On patients with secretions left in the vaginal canal, wipe dry the canal with a sterile gauze

- Some discomfort might be associated at introitus level when inserting the HP tip on patients with introital stenosis
- As the treatment technique involves intravaginal handpiece motion, some patients may report a sensation of “vibration” which remains pain-free

*All recommended pre-treatment evaluations will meet local medical and regulatory requirements

Treatment session

The treatment may include two consecutive steps:

Intra-vaginal treatment using the FemTouch™ probe

Treatment parameters should be adjusted for each patient based on the atrophy level assessed by Vaginal Health Index Score (VHIS) (see table below).

Note: For severe atrophy, the use of low energy level in the first treatment is recommended. In sequential treatments, based on VHIS evaluation and physician discretion, energy and density level should be re adjusted.

External treatment (optional) using the AcuScan 120 Microscanner

Treatment parameters should be adjusted for each patient based on the atrophy level assessed by Vaginal Health Index Score (VHIS) (see table below).

Note: The use of low energy level in the first treatment is recommended. In sequential treatments, based on physician discretion, energy and density level should be re adjusted.



Treatment settings

Treatment	Atrophy level	First treatment	Second treatment	Third treatment
Intra-vaginal (FemTouch™)	Severe (5< VHIS <15)	Energy: 7.5 / 10 mJ Density : 10%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 10%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 10%
	Moderate (15< VHIS <20)	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 10%	Energy: 10 / 12.5 mJ Density : 10% / 15%	Energy: 10 / 12.5 mJ Density : 10% / 15%
	Non atrophic (VHIS>20)	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 10%	Energy: 12.5 mJ Density : 10% / 15%	Energy: 12.5 mJ Density : 15%

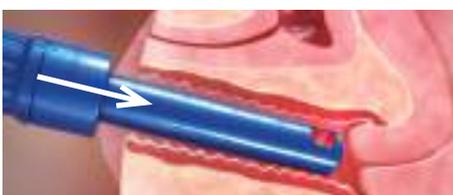
Treatment	Treatment area	Laser Type	First treatment	Second treatment	Third treatment
External (AcuScan 120 Microscanner, Deep mode)	Vaginal introitus	CW	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5% / 10%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5% / 10%
	Labia Minora	CW	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%
	Labia Majora	SuperPulse	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%-10%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%-10%	Energy: 10 mJ Density : 5%-10%

Treatment technique

1. Prepare the treatment screen with the settings (using the table above)
2. Keep the system on a Standby mode
3. Lubricate the FemTouch™ probe with baby oil
4. Gently insert the tip (with dimples facing up) into the vagina until you reach the cervix



5. Enter Ready mode and press the footswitch to deliver a scanned pulse to one side of the vaginal wall
6. Rotate the probe by 60° clock- or counterclockwise (double dots serve as indicators)
7. Following a rotation of the probe, deliver the next scanned pulse
8. Repeat the above to complete a treatment 6 times till you have covered the 360°
9. Retract the probe by one notch and deliver another set of scanned pulses
10. Keep rotating, pulsing and retracting, until you have covered the whole vaginal wall
11. The mirror of the probe should always remain in the canal during the lasing procedure



Post treatment instructions

- Vaginal hydrating gel* may be prescribed to soothe the vaginal lining and relieve the patient for up to 1 week
- Area should be kept moist using occlusive ointment
- The patient should be instructed to refrain from coital activity for 72 hours following the procedure
- The patient should avoid using hot water on the treated area until healing is complete

* As per Physician's discretion

Clinical experience summary

This treatment guide summarizes the experience from clinical evaluations performed by leading gynecologists.

In clinical evaluations, an improvement in the symptoms of vaginal atrophy was noticed by the physicians as well as the patients. The improvement was observed in vaginal elasticity, fluid volume and epithelial integrity. In several patients who presented severe atrophy showed a great or total improvement after the treatment. In addition, an improvement in the vaginal tightening sensation was noticed following treatment. Vaginoscopy revealed that the color of the vaginal mucosa changed from a pale color, common in atrophy to a peachy color that characterizes normal vaginal mucosa.

In clinical evaluations, the patients reported being very satisfied with the results achieved and stated that they would be willing to recommend it to other patients. In addition, they reported that the procedure was very fast, painless and only in several cases, minimal discomfort was mentioned. No post-treatment adverse event was reported but two patients had a slightly burning sensation occurring 24 hours post treatment which resolved following in the application of vaginal moisturizing cream.

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