

CLINICAL RESULTS WITH THE

Q-CLEAR™ LASER SYSTEM*



BEFORE

AFTER



BEFORE

AFTER



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What are my options?

Laser treatment of diseased, dystrophic nails can provide cosmetic improvement and may reduce or cure an underlying fungal infection. Once it has the opportunity, the nail plate may be able to grow out normally, but that takes time and healthy foot care habits. While the procedure is often considered “cosmetic” it can be medically important for patients having diabetes, poor circulation, discomfort, and other conditions. Generally, the earlier the treatment, the better the result.

Options include:

- Delaying treatment and living with the condition.
- Relying upon over-the-counter or prescription topical antifungal medications alone.
- Taking prescription oral systemic medications such as Lamisil.

We are happy to discuss all options with you!



BEFORE

AFTER



FOOT & ANKLE
CENTER

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 **LIGHT AGE**
ADVANCED LASER SYSTEMS

Q-CLEAR™
Laser Treatment

Restore Your Nails
to
Health and Luster

Laser Treatment of Nails

How does the laser treatment work?

The Q-Clear™ Laser System produces powerful very short pulses of light at visible and invisible wavelengths that can penetrate the nail plate and surrounding skin. The unique time-structure of these pulses is designed to destroy most pathogens that infect nails and feet while not affecting the surrounding healthy tissue.

Are all lasers used to treat nails the same?

The breakthrough technology, upon which this treatment is based, was invented and patented by scientists at Light Age, the manufacturer of the Q-Clear™ Laser System. It extends the concept of selective photothermolysis and differs substantially from all other laser and light-based treatments in providing an unprecedented level of effect without any significant pain or other undesirable side-effects.

Is there any pain, does the treatment involve an anesthetic?

No anesthetic is used during the treatment. While pain perception varies from person to person, most patients report that the treatment is completely painless.

How long do the treatments take? How long before I can see results?

Depending on severity and the size of the nails involved, most treatments take between three and five minutes per foot. Results, seen as new clear nail growth, are typically apparent within 3 to 6 months. Depending on age and other factors, it may take a year or more for the nail to completely grow out.

What should I do before and after treatment?

Little pre-treatment preparation is required. Before coming for your treatment you should remove any nail polish and come with clean dry feet and nails. It is best to bring new socks with you to wear after treatment.

After treatment you may be advised to use a topical anti-fungal medication until the nail plate has grown out. Additionally, it is important to maintain good foot hygiene and return for follow up sessions approximately every three months. You may otherwise pursue your normal routine, choosing to have pedicures, apply nail overlays and nail polish as you feel appropriate to your lifestyle.

Are results guaranteed?

Unfortunately, a very small percentage of patients may have conditions that are resistant to this treatment. However, clinical studies conducted in the US and Europe have shown that the treatment is highly effective and provides significant cosmetic improvement in approximately 95% of patients.

Can this laser system be used to treat other conditions?

The US FDA has cleared the Q-Clear™ Laser System for treatment of some 30 medical and cosmetic indications including treatment of warts and a large range of pigmented and vascular lesions, as well as for removal and modification of small tattoos.

What are the risks and benefits of treatment?

There are no known adverse risks involved in the Q-Clear™ laser treatment other than the possibility it may not resolve the underlying condition or improve the appearance of the nail. The benefits are substantial. Clinical studies indicate that this therapy is highly effective in destroying the most common fungal pathogens and in improving the condition of the nail plate. For patients having additional conditions, such as diabetes, obesity, immunodeficiency, or poor circulation to the feet, the benefit can be more than cosmetic. Lesions caused by fungal infections provide opportunistic openings for further bacterial and viral infection, which can be extremely serious and may prove unresponsive to medical treatment, requiring surgical intervention.

Is the treatment covered by health insurance?

Most typically, it isn't. Because the procedure is considered to treat a largely cosmetic condition, most health insurance does not cover its costs, except in cases where there may be an underlying medical complication, such as diabetes. You should check with your health insurance provider to determine under what circumstances your treatment might be covered.

What is the cost of the treatments?

Because the severity and extent of the dystrophy, infection, and underlying conditions vary, there is no fixed cost that is universally applicable. That said, our practice is committed to working with each patient to provide treatments that affordably meet individual needs and goals. Please give us the opportunity to work with you to project your course of treatment and its likely cost.

