



Radiofrequency Offerings Expand. The newest entry in the fractionated skin rejuvenation market is radiofrequency (RF)-based devices. Promising dermal disruption with minimal epidermal damage, they fall closer to nonablative devices on the ablation spectrum. Syneron (syneron.com) was



“RF technology is becoming more refined and it is more affordable, which means we’re going to see more and more of these devices.”

the first manufacturer to introduce RF fractional technology in the United States with the eMatrix. It has recently been joined by the V-Touch device from Viora (vioramed.com) and the Fractora handpiece from Invasix (invasix.com).

“Instead of having a color target, like laser wavelengths, the RF strictly delivers energy based on how much tissue resistance or impedance there is,” says Dr. Eubanks, who treats patients of any skin color with the eMatrix in his practice. Its so-called “color-blindness” and corresponding safety profile for patients with darker skin tones is one of the technology’s biggest selling points.



➤ Vertical lip lines treated with the RF-based Invasix Fractora Fractional handpiece.

The 1550nm Fraxel laser from Reliant Technologies (now Solta Medical, solta.com) introduced the medical aesthetics industry to an entirely new category of devices. Featuring a fractionated delivery system that breaks laser beams into tiny dots that create thermal zones of injury surrounded by healthy tissue, the Fraxel—and the many devices it inspired—expanded the patient base for laser skin resurfacing. Patients no longer need to suffer through months of downtime, and doctors can safely treat a wider range of patients by choosing the correct device based on skin type, skin concerns and lifestyle.

Tiny Pinpoints of Light

By Inga Hansen

Fractionated technologies continue to expand and evolve, offering practitioners more targeted options.