



**This webpage is not available.**



HOME | NOTEBOOK | FIRSTBYTE | NEWSFRONT | SPOTLITE | BLOGGER'S SAY | LAB REVIEW | TECH TALK | GAMING | AV-IT | AT THE MOVIES |  
08 Feb, 10 [facebook](#) [RSS](#)

roduce browser for iPhone (Reuters)

Micron Acquires Flash Memory Maker Numonyx (PC World)

Audiovox acquires Invision Industries (AP)

Home » CoverStory

## BEAUTY OF TECHNOLOGY

2009/10/19

THE lure of staying young and beautiful for as long as one can, is keeping aesthetic medicine in the pink of health.

Aesthetic medicine is primarily focused on the patho-physiology of ageing skin. Its practitioners are trained in both invasive and non-invasive treatments and use a combination of both to treat patients.

"Aesthetic medicine is gaining popularity in Malaysia, as is the trend everywhere else in the world," says aesthetic and laser physician Dr Chin Shih Choon, who helms an anti-ageing and aesthetic centre in Shah Alam, Selangor.



CO2 laser is being used to remove moles, and age spots.

"Over the past 10 years, non-surgical aesthetic procedures have increased nearly 750 per cent, with consumers in the US spending more than US\$12 billion (RM41 billion) on cosmetic procedures in 2006 alone.

"But in tough economic times, small aesthetic luxuries are in demand. Consumers load up on affordable luxuries as a substitute for more expensive items, for example, laser lipolysis over surgical liposuction, or dermal fillers over facelifts."

Technology matters

Technology is a key feature of aesthetic medicine. "Aesthetic physicians use many hi-tech medical devices that allow doctors to treat many conditions that were unheard of just a decade ago. Who would have imagined we could erase lines and wrinkles, wiping away years from our features with cosmetic lasers, botox and RF (radio frequency) equipment?" Dr Chin says.

Many aesthetic physicians also have turned to the Internet and use blogs and social networking tools such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to share information, he points out. "Doctors practising aesthetic medicine are also quick to adopt new technology in their rapidly evolving landscape. It is really an exciting time for us and also our clients."

Among technologies used are cosmetic lasers, light devices, ultra-sound, RF and dermal infusion devices. Cosmetic lasers are widely used to treat pigments, wrinkles, acne scars, vascular lesions and skin lesions as well as for hair removal, lipolysis and skin rejuvenation.

Light devices such as intense pulsed light are used to treat acne, pigments and skin rejuvenation while ultra-sound is frequently used for non-invasive lipolysis.

RF-based medical devices are used to tighten the skin, remove cellulite and reduce localised fat. "RF is used to combat ageing by stimulating and restoring collagen and elastin that lie below the skin's surface.

As the skin ages, the collagen fibres begin to stretch and the result is sagging skin," Dr Chin explains. "The RF lift procedure works in two ways. First, it uniformly heats up the weaker collagen which causes it to immediately contract and thicken. Then it creates micro-injuries to the dermis layer, which leads to the production of new collagen and elastin over the next several months."

Risks

Aesthetic medicine is not without risks. For example, a laser can treat pigmented lesions and birth marks or remove a tattoo safely in the hands of an expert. But if a laser device is used by an untrained person, it can cause much damage such as intractable pigments and dangerous infections, Dr Chin warns.

That's why patients must always seek treatment only from qualified medical practitioners. Those who want such information can get a list from the Health Ministry's Web site or Malaysian Society of Aesthetic Medicine

Search articles :



ARCHIVES

- All about Finding the right balance
- HD living
- A long-awaited welcome
- Clearer picture of HDTV
- Easy switch to HD
- Demand for skilled workers to pick up
- Next buzz
- More than just textbooks
- Making schools smart, technologically
- FORGING AHEAD
- Stage set for an exciting year
- Innovation excellence
- Passion for creativity
- Buildings go green
- New threats, new protection model
- Mobile connectivity adds new dimension to cybercrime
- Changing security landscape
- Local content global market
- CASHING IN ONLINE
- Retail management solution for offline stores
- Unique value proposition
- New payment platform from Friendster