

Lakewood Ranch
**Hair
Removal
Center**

Electrolysis and Laser Comparison

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Education:

The state of Florida requires 200 hours of practicum and 120 hours of academic learning. The educational process includes the following:

- Causes of Hair Problems
- Hair & Skin Anatomy
- Neurology & Angiology
- Bacteriology & Disinfection
- Dermatology
- Principles of Electricity
- Electrolysis Practicum
- Treatment Procedures

Electrologists take a certification and are licensed in Florida, with continuing educational requirements.

History:

Women and medical professional have tried several means to remove hair. Some examples are:

- inserting unsterile needles into the follicle thinking this would seal up the follicle
- applying sulphuric acid to the skin
- surgical removal of the follicle
- placing a barbed needle in the follicle then twisting it

Needless to say none of these worked without damaging and scarring the skin.

In 1875, Dr. Michel, an ophthalmologist, first successfully removed hair by electrolysis on a patient that had ingrown eyelashes.

What causes hair problems?

- Congenital, meaning you are born with it, genetics an example would be people from the Mediterranean area have a tendency to be more hairy.
- Topical, having a chronic topical stimulation increases the blood supply and causes hair to grow. An example of this would be having a cast on your leg. The chafing/rubbing of the cast on your skin causes the stimulation.

- Systemic, this is the distribution of hormones. Hormones can “stir up” the hair cells to life. An example of this is puberty, pregnancy, and menopause. This is the most common cause of a hair problem.

I should also mention that medications, stress, endocrine disorders, disease and skin grafts can also be causes of hair growth.

It is important to understand that your hair has three stages of growth. They are anagen, catagen and telogen. Why is this important?

Electrolysis will work only on one stage of growth. The anagen stage is the only stage that has live germ cells present. The electrolysis will prevent hair from developing a new hair because the heat “kills” them.

Electrolysis		Laser
Any color of hair	Type of hair	Dark hair only
Permanent, due to the heat dessicates the hair follicle	Is it permanent?	Laser is a form of light. The light seeks out a chromophore, which is melanin. Heat is produced to destroy the hair germ cells. In essence, the laser shrinks the hair follicle. The FDA says laser is a “reduction in the number of hairs regrowing after a treatment regime.”
Pain tolerance varies individually. There are topicals available for relief.	Does it hurt?	The sensation has been described as a rubberband being snapped or a pin prick.
Pregnancy, Skin lesions, Infections, Contagious Skin Disorders	Contraindications	Photosensitivity, Medications, Chronic Lung, Heart, Liver Disease, Compromised Immune System, Active herpes, Skin Lesions, Sun Exposure
No Skin typing required, Suntan history not important	Medical History	Medications, Suntan History, Skin Typing required (questionnaire)
First treatment after the consultation is approximately 15 minutes only.	How soon can you start treatment?	First visit- Consultation, Medical Director must sign off on the medical history. Second visit- Test spot, look for reactions Third visit- Full treatment to desired body part.
Hairs not at the anagen stage will grow back and others may have been cycled out and not evident with prior electrolysis.	Regrowth	Hairs not at the anagen stage will grow back. Some hairs will grow back softer, finer and lighter in color. Some hairs are “stubborn” and laser may not be the best choice to remove these hairs.
Redness, hive/mosquito bite like appearance (at times) and occasionally some scabbing may occur.	How will my appearance be affected after treatment?	Redness like a sunburn. May blister if laser is performed on newly sun tanned skin.
Every case is different one cannot know how many times it will take until your hairs are gone. Start out weekly and as the hair growth slows,	Frequency	Again every case is different. One can not know how many times it will take until your hairs are gone. Every four to six weeks with an average of six to eight

increased time is allotted before the next treatment		treatments to the desired body part. There are many variables, diet, medications, stress, pain tolerance, sun exposure, wavelength, hair depth, area treated and skin type to name a few.
This depends on one's pain tolerance and how the skin is reacting to the heat.	How long is a treatment?	This varies on the desired body part being worked upon. Some examples, Upper lip or chin-10 minutes Full Legs- 90 minutes Underarms or Bikini- 20 minutes
You will see a slowing of hair growth. Those who have Moderate to Severe hair growth may get frustrated due to the length of time.	Are the results immediate?	Not seen right away. The hairs will fall out from three to four weeks after the treatment. Typically after the fourth treatment one will see a marked reduction.
1-15 Minutes \$25 16-30 Minutes \$30 31-60 Minutes \$55	Cost	Charges are by the body part and consist of one treatment. Packages are available, buy four get fifth for free. Examples: Underarms \$125, Upper Lip \$110, Extended Bikini \$180, Chin \$125
36 Weeks x \$30 minute, 30 minute treatment for just under 10 months) = \$1080	Cost Comparison	Underarms 8 treatments \$1000 Upper Lip 8 treatments \$880 Extended Bikini \$1440 Chin \$1000