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**Press Release**

“Gateway” devices for physicians pushing Med Spa revenues to more than \$400 Million...

**Laser Hair Removal A Risky business without adequate training for post graduate students**

Laser hair removal has become one of the fastest-growing nonsurgical cosmetic procedures in recent years -- second only to Botox -- with more than 1.3 million performed in 2005. But some health advocates say the industry has grown so fast that regulations have not kept pace and consumers should be cautious. It is a relatively new industry and most provinces and states have not established post graduated education requirements.

Marketed as a way to eliminate the need for shaving or waxing to remove unwanted hair, the procedure involves passing low-level laser energy over the skin where it is absorbed in the pigment of active hair follicles, disabling them.

Estheticians and Electrologists are required to take a certain amount of hours for training with lasers. But nobody is requiring physician assistants or nurses or physicians to do that. "There's a huge gap in training." Clients have received permanent scarring and second-degree burns.

Doctors as diverse as ophthalmologists and obstetrician-gynecologists have gotten into the business of removing hair with lasers, but the provinces and states do not spell out what training they must have.

According to the Florida Department of Health, most of the 226 complaints involving laser hair removal filed in the last decade were against physicians, said Cozart, the agency spokeswoman. Forty-seven involved electrology, she said.

The obsession with year-round tans and wrinkle-free complexions has led to an explosion in salons offering injectable fillers, laser treatments and chemical peels. This industry rakes in millions every year but the safety standards of thousands of unregistered providers are unmonitored.

So how popular is hair removal? According to the Global Aesthetic Market Report, Medical Insight Inc., CA, 2005, laser hair removal procedures will grow 217% from 14 million to 45.4 million between 2004 and 2009.

Millennium Research Group Releases Report "U.S. Markets for Aesthetic Lasers 2006"

Millennium Research Group (MRG), a company providing medical technology market intelligence, reports that more and more physicians are offering laser procedures such as hair removal and skin rejuvenation to help maintain their incomes in the face of managed care cost reductions and increasing malpractice insurance costs. According to the new report entitled US Markets for Aesthetic Lasers 2006, patients are most likely to demand hair removal or skin rejuvenation. Laser systems for these procedures are considered “gateway” devices for physicians (such as general practitioners, obstetricians, and ear, nose, and throat surgeons) to enter the aesthetics business.

"With an aging U.S. population interested in looking younger through noninvasive, reliable, and safe procedures, many physicians are purchasing systems with skin rejuvenation capabilities," says David Plow, Senior Analyst at Millennium Research Group.

Almost 6 million aesthetic laser procedures were performed in the US in 2005, pushing revenues in this market to more than \$400 million. Hair removal was the largest segment, followed by skin rejuvenation; the skin rejuvenation market will, however, grow more rapidly than the hair removal market from 2006 to 2010, eventually overtaking hair removal as the largest segment of the aesthetic laser market.

### **About Skin Rejuvenation**

Skin rejuvenation is often defined as a wrinkle reduction treatment. Treatment of uneven coloration -- such as spider veins, age spots, or other facial imperfections is considered part of skin rejuvenation.

### **CLI CosMedic Laser Institute provides industry and business post graduate training.**

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