At Contour Dermatology we pride ourselves in using the most efficient state of the art technology to treat specific patient concerns. We use the Gentlelase laser for laser hair removal. Laser hair removal is a popular non-invasive treatment that has been proven to adequately remove hair from any unwanted area. We have provided laser hair removal to our patients for over 10 years.

**Who is the best candidate for this laser?**

The best candidate for laser hair removal would be a patient with DARK HAIR and LIGHT SKIN. This is the most effective patient because it gives the laser a much more focused target without any risk of targeting skin tissue. The laser does not work for light colored hair.

**How does it work?**

Laser hair removal uses a low-energy laser to gently remove unwanted hair. The laser energy passes through the skin and is absorbed by the pigment in the hair follicle. In a fraction of a second, all of the treated hair follicles are disabled. Patients should avoid tweezing, plucking or waxing 4-6 weeks prior to appointment. We also prefer patients not to shave or use depilatories 3-5 days before treatment.

**Is laser hair reduction permanent?**

Although laser hair removal results will vary from patient to patient depending on skin and hair color; most patients experience an 80-90% reduction in the amount of hair in a given area, but should not expect to be hair free.

**Can any area of the body be treated?**

Yes, with the exception of eyelashes, due to the proximity of the eye and the danger of eye injury with a laser.

**How many treatments will be needed?**

The number of sessions you need is dependent on a few factors. Some of these factors are hair color, skin pigmentation, hair density and your hormonal status. Typically patients can expect to need 5-6 sessions, with the possibility of needing more.

**Does the treatment hurt?**

There is a stinging sensation felt during treatment, however most patients who have waxed report that it feels less painful than waxing. We do recommend and offer topical numbing to help ease the feeling.

**What are possible side effects of Laser Hair Removal?**

Side effects can include blistering, hyperpigmentation (darkening of an area of skin caused by increased melanin), hypopigmentation (loss of skin color) or scarring. Risks of these side effects are minimized if treatment instructions are closely followed by the patient.