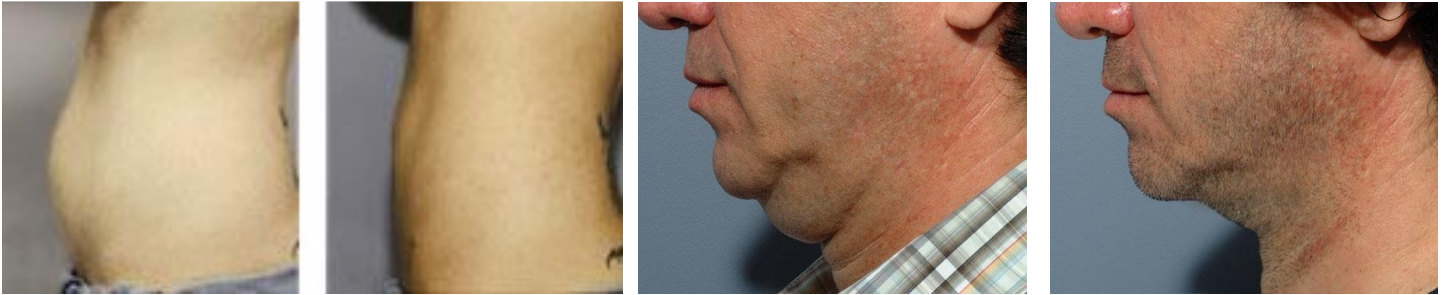


## **SmartLIPO Laser Body Sculpting Frequently Asked Questions**



### **What is SmartLipo?**

SmartLipo is a minimally invasive surgical procedure utilizing a laser to destroy fat cells and tighten skin. It is not meant to replace traditional liposuction or weight reduction, but can effectively treat small areas of unwanted fat on the face, neck, arms, male breast, and other body areas. It is very effective for tightening loose and flabby skin.

### **How does SmartLipo work?**

The SmartLipo laser disrupts fat cells with thermal and photoacoustic actions-heating and shattering the fat cell membrane. The laser coagulates the underlying blood vessels thereby lessening the bleeding, bruising, and overall recovery time of this procedure.

### **Why is this different than liposuction?**

Liposuction is a surgical procedure used to remove large areas of unwanted fat. It is often performed under general anesthesia. Healing after this procedure can take up to six weeks. SmartLipo is not meant for weight loss, or to remove large areas of fat. SmartLipo is a wonderful tool to help sculpt your body by removing small areas of unwanted fat and tightening up sagging skin. SmartLipo is a minor surgical procedure done with local anesthesia in our office. Recovery time is much faster than with liposuction -from a few days to two weeks.

### **Does SmartLipo produce long-lasting results?**

Yes! The SmartLipo procedure permanently destroys the treated fat cells. Adults do not create new fat cells. Should you gain weight after this procedure the fat will most likely be deposited in areas where SmartLipo was not performed? It may take three to six months to achieve maximum results.

### **Who is a good candidate for SmartLipo?**

Ideal candidates are in good health, are close to ideal body weight, and have realistic expectations of what this procedure can do. The best sites are small areas of unwanted fat that do not respond to diet and exercise.

### **How many treatments are required?**

For the majority of patients, one treatment is required. The treatment session can last from 1 to 4 hours depending on the sites being treated.

**What complications can occur with SmartLipo?**

Fortunately complications are uncommon. As with any surgical procedure, infections can occur. Skin bruising may occur. Reactions to the local anesthetic can occur including persistent numbness. The laser can cause burns. These will all be reviewed during your consultation.

**How do I get started?**

A consultation is required for all patients. There is no charge for this visit. At this time we will determine if SmartLipo is right for you. If you are a good candidate and you wish to proceed, we will go over specific pre-procedure instructions.

**What are the details of the procedure?**

Most patients received prophylactic antibiotics the night before and the morning of the procedure. You may eat a light meal prior to the procedure. The area or areas to be treated will be marked and photographed. The skin will then be cleansed with an antiseptic solution. A small injection of local anesthetic will be made. An incision just large enough to insert a small tube will then be made. This small tube will introduce additional local anesthetic. Once the area is sufficiently numb the SmartLipo treatment begins. The laser tip is inserted underneath the skin through the same incision made previously. The laser tip moves continuously over the treatment area. Depending on the size of the area or areas, this can take from 45 minutes to several hours. Once the treatment is completed, the skin is cleaned, dressings are applied, and a compression garment is put on. (The compression garment is worn for 3 to 6 days.) After the procedure you will be monitored for a short while. Post-procedure instructions will be reviewed. We request that someone be present to drive you home. A follow-up appointment in 1 to 3 days is required.

**How much does this procedure cost?**

SmartLipo is typically much less expensive than liposuction surgery. The exact cost will be reviewed at the time of consultation. As an example, small areas may cost \$1500 while multiple or large areas can cost several times this. This cost includes the fees for visits before and after the procedure. You will also be responsible for costs for any prescription medications and the compression garment.

If you have any additional questions please call our office at: 413-253-2214