

Ultraformer Achieves Effective Non-Surgical Face-Lifting, Tightening and Whitening



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Before Tx



After Ultraformer Tx
Photos courtesy of Classys

By Ilya Petrou, M.D., Contributing Editor

Ever since its recent entrance in the aesthetic market, the Ultraformer device from Classys, Inc. (Seoul, Korea) continues to impress physicians and their patients with excellent face and neck lifting treatment outcomes. This innovative device offers cosmetic patients a viable non-invasive option to more traditional surgical lifting and tightening treatment approaches.

"In my opinion, the Ultraformer device is going to have a significant impact in the aesthetic industry," said Klaus Fritz, M.D., director of the Dermatology and Laser Centers in Landau, Germany, lecturer at the University of Osnabrueck, Germany, and former president of the *European Society of Laser Dermatology*. "The treatment outcomes one can achieve for face lifting and skin tightening with this device are remarkable."

Based on mature, time-tested High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU) technology, Ultraformer effectively treats the superficial and deeper dermis, as well as the superficial muscular aponeurotic system (SMAS) with a triple layer lifting effect. Heating the targeted area to between 65° and 75° C, the highly focused acoustic energy creates thermal coagulation zones at 1.5 mm, 3 mm and 4.5 mm depths, optimally penetrating the skin with geometric precision, while completely sparing the epidermis.

"HIFU affects all three layers of the superficial and mid-dermis as well as the SMAS, a method that may be

more effective than one-pass protocols for skin tightening," said Beom-Joon Kim, M.D., Ph.D., a Professor in the department of dermatology, at the College of Medicine, Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea.

Certified by the Korean FDA for eyebrow lifting and CE marked, Ultraformer can also achieve excellent aesthetic outcomes in malar augmentation, jowl lifting, nasolabial fold reduction and periorbital wrinkle reduction, as well as overall skin tightening and rejuvenation in targeted areas.

"In my experience, the speed and simplicity of treatment, coupled with the excellent cosmetic results one can achieve, distinguish the Ultraformer device from any other laser treatment employed for the same indications," Dr. Fritz stated.

Collagen is the primary protein in the dermis, along with subcutaneous fat septae and the SMAS. It is a family of structural proteins responsible for the strength and resilience of the skin and other tissues. HIFU energy heats the collagen fibers leading to denaturation. This in turn results in a thickening and shortening of the collagen fibrils, greater tissue tension due to the rubber-elastic properties of collagen, and ultimately, tissue tightening.

Soon after an Ultraformer treatment session, patients will appreciate a firmer feel to the skin, along with a smoothening of fine lines. While this immediate plumping effect is

temporary, it signals the initiation of the neocollagenesis process.

"Following the initial effects, a wound healing response is initiated in the skin, resulting in the formation of new collagen fibers, which provides longer-term tightening of the skin. After four weeks of treatment, patients' facial contours and fine wrinkles show appreciable improvement. Additional skin firming and tightening is seen over the next two to three months after treatment," Dr. Kim reported.

This non-invasive procedure is associated with no downtime, allowing patients to return to daily activities immediately after treatment. Dramatic results can be achieved following treatment, with improvements seen in facial skin tightening and fine wrinkles up to six months after. Maintenance treatments could then be performed at three or six month intervals, depending on the degree of lifting and tightening that needs to be addressed in the individual patient at baseline.

"In my experience, the Ultraformer is the best device I have ever used for soft tissue and skin tightening," said Franco Lauro, M.D., a plastic surgeon in private practice in Bologna, Italy. Treatments are extremely quick, with a typical face and neck tightening procedure lasting approximately 20 to 25 minutes, allowing patients to quickly return to their daily routine."

According to Dr. Lauro, there is no downtime associated with the Ultraformer procedure and to date, he has not seen any complications from treatment, underscoring the device's

safety. "Using the Ultraformer, I can easily and safely treat every part of the body, and all Fitzpatrick Skin types without hesitation, he added. "We can even combine treatment with other complementary aesthetic procedures in the same session."

Featuring a dual handpiece, the Ultraformer device offers a fluence of 0.1 to 1 J, and is equipped with three different cartridges ideal for the triple layer HIFU treatment approach, namely L7-3: 7 MHz (3 mm), L4-4.5: 4 MHz (4.5 mm), and L7-1.5: 7 MHz (1.5 mm).

Beyond its benefits in skin tightening, as well as face and neck lifting, the Ultraformer device has also been shown to efficaciously lighten skin, further demonstrating its versatility in cosmetic treatments. Dr. Kim, who is also a professor at the R&D Center of the Chung-Ang University Hospital – appointed by The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Korea for the Brain Korea 21 Plus project team in the arena of dermatological science (2013-2020) – has explored the Ultraformer's effectiveness for this indication.

"I have performed NB-UVB examinations for the treatment of pigmentation in brown guinea pigs. From our research, my team and I have observed significant changes in skin pigmentation and can confirm the Ultraformer's efficacy in lightening the skin of animal models. We emitted both 0.1 J and 0.2 J of the device's L7-1.5 settings in the study. Using these parameters, the lightening effect was observed three weeks following a protocol of four treatments per week for a one month period," Dr. Kim reported.



Before Tx



After Ultraformer Tx
Photos courtesy of Classys

Ultraformer Ushers in New Era of Skin Tightening and Tissue Lifting



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Before Tx



After Ultraformer Tx
Photos courtesy of Classys, Inc.

By Ilya Petrou, M.D., Contributing Editor

Classys, Inc. (Seoul, Korea) is looking to take the aesthetic industry by storm with the introduction of Ultraformer®, an innovative device that is proving to be very effective for skin tightening and tissue lifting in the face and neck after only one treatment session.

Certified by the Korean FDA and CE cleared for eyebrow lifting, this high-intensity focused ultrasonic (HIFU) device can also achieve excellent aesthetic outcomes in malar augmentation, jowl lifting, nasolabial fold reduction, periorbital wrinkle reduction and overall skin tightening and rejuvenation in targeted areas.

According to Jong-Seo Kim, M.D., director of the Kimjongseo Clinic in Seoul, Korea, “non-surgical skin lifting and tightening have become popular procedures in aesthetic medicine today. HIFU is a new type of non-invasive technology that can offer an alternative treatment option to invasive face-lifting and tightening procedures.”

Ultraformer effectively treats the superficial and deeper dermis, as well as the superficial muscular aponeurotic system (SMAS) with a triple layer lifting effect. Heating the targeted area to 65°-75° C, the highly focused acoustic energy creates thermal coagulation zones at 1.5 mm, 3 mm and 4.5 mm depths, penetrating the skin at optimal levels with geometric precision, while completely sparing the epidermis.

Professor Beom-Joon Kim, M.D., Ph.D., of the department of dermatology at the College of Medicine, Chung-Ang University (Seoul, Korea), explained, “HIFU affects three layers of the superficial and mid-dermis, along with the SMAS, which may be more effective than one-pass protocols for skin tightening.”

Collagen is the primary protein in the dermis, along with subcutaneous fat, fibrous septae and the SMAS. It is a family of structural proteins responsible for

the strength and resilience of the skin and other tissues. As collagen is heated, it becomes denatured, said Professor B.J. Kim. This results in a thickening and shortening of collagen fibrils, greater tissue tension due to the rubber-elastic properties of collagen, and ultimately tissue tightening.

Soon after Ultraformer therapy, patients commonly report that skin feels firmer and fine lines are smoothed, Dr. J.S. Kim reported. While this immediate plumping effect is temporary, it signals that the beneficial process of collagen regeneration has begun.

“Following the initial effects, the skin initiates a wound healing response, resulting in the formation of new collagen, which provides longer-term tightening of the skin. After four weeks of treatment, patients’ facial contours and fine wrinkles show noticeable improvement, and additional skin firming and tightening is observed over the course of two to three months post-procedure,” noted Professor B.J. Kim.

Improvements in facial skin tightening and fine wrinkles are reportedly seen up to six months after treatment. Additionally, as a non-invasive procedure, there is no associated downtime, allowing patients to return to daily activities immediately.

“Ultraformer gently lifts the skin on the cheeks to a higher, more youthful position, resulting in an overall ovaling effect and elevation of the brow, a softening of the wrinkles around the eyes, as well as diminished pore size,” Dr. J.S. Kim stated.

Appropriate patient selection and counseling is essential prior to the procedure Dr. J.S. Kim added, and ideal candidates include those patients who exhibit early signs of skin laxity, coupled with realistic expectations regarding treatment outcomes.