

## FAQ's about Lumixyl



### **How long does it take for the average Lumixyl Topical Brightening System user to see visible results in their skin?**

This depends on skin type, depth, and degree of hyperpigmentation together with the frequency of GlycoPeel 20 use. Keep in mind that using Lumixyl Topical Brightenin Creme alone solves only half of the hyperpigmentation problem (overproduction of melanin), while the GlycoPeel 20 product addresses the other (removing hyperpigmented layers of the epidermis via exfoliation and enhanced cellular turnover). If the system is used properly, some patients can begin seeing improvement in their skin in as little as 2 – 3 weeks; however, most patients will begin seeing improvements at 8 – 12 weeks. The 8 – 12 week timeframe should be the expectation conveyed to the patient

### **Can the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System be used in combination with IPL, Fraxel or other laser resurfacing technologies?**

The answer is yes, but we cannot propose a protocol for using our Lumixyl System with these treatments as we do not have first-hand experience with them at this time. The decision to treat patients with the Lumixyl System and laser resurfacing, as well as the treatment protocol used to treat the patient, should be left to the physician to decide. With that said, we do have physicians that are testing the Lumixyl System in combination with laser resurfacing and expect to have their feedback on appropriate treatment protocols soon.

### **Can the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System be used to treat pregnant women?**

Since we do not currently have scientific and clinical evidence to substantiate the safe use of the Lumixyl System with pregnant women, we would advise that pregnant women check with their OB/GYN doctor before using our Lumixyl System or any other physician-grade skin care products

### **Can the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System be used long-term or do you have to stop its use after several months of use as recommended for competitive hydroquinone-based systems?**

The answer is yes – it can be used on a long term basis. Unlike hydroquinone-based systems, the Lumixyl System can be safely used long-term without the need to stop its use or alternate with other maintenance-type products.

**How do I use the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System as a maintenance regimen once desired results are achieved?**

The Active-Prep Cleanser, Lumixyl Creme and MoistureLock Sunscreen should always be used according to the recommended use protocol on the Lumixyl System packaging carton but use of the GlycoPeel 20 can be backed down to once every third day in the morning or once per week in the morning. Keep in mind, however, that most forms of melasma/hyperpigmentation are induced by continued stimulus from medications, sun exposure, hormones, etc. Hence, it is advised that patients continue with their Lumixyl Creme, in conjunction with an SPF and reduced sun exposure, in order to maintain their brighter, more even skin-tone.

**Is the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System good for darker skin tones?**

The Lumixyl System is ideal for darker skin tones where there is naturally a greater risk of actually seeing skin darkening with the use of Hydroquinone. Due to its non-toxic peptide-based mechanism, it does not have the counter-expression (hypopigmentation - a bleaching effect) that occurs occasionally with prescription products in darker skin.

**Is there an average time frame for most patients to progress from a Lumixyl System use level one to the next level?**

The time frame for progressing from a level one to subsequent levels depends both on the patient's tolerability to the GlycoPeel 20 lotion as well as his or her desired results. Keep in mind that lighter skin types (Fitzpatrick Phototypes I & II) may only require a level one or two to achieve desired results due to the fact that these patients tend to peel easier than patients of darker skin types. Patients with Fitzpatrick types III and above with oily skin may require up to a level III or IV to achieve adequate epidermal turnover. Again, how quickly a patient progresses from one level to another will depend on his or her ability to tolerate more frequent use of the GlycoPeel 20 product.

**How does the Lumixyl Creme work compared to Hydroquinone?**

Lumixyl works like hydroquinone in that it inhibits the tyrosinase enzyme that initiates new melanin production in skin. It differs from hydroquinone in that it does not kill the skin cells (melanocytes) that produce pigment in skin.

**How is it possible that the GlycoPeel 20 is a leave-on lotion when it contains 20% Glycolic Acid? Won't it induce a chemical burn?**

GlycoPeel 20 is used as a leave-on product, even though it contains 20% Glycolic Acid, because it is buffered to a pH of 3.0+. This prevents chemical burns from occurring (when used appropriately) and allows for enhanced tolerability of the product while maintaining its exfoliating efficacy.

**Does the Lumixyl Creme have any effect on melanin that has already been deposited throughout the layers of the epidermis?**

No. The Lumixyl Creme works to regulate the overproduction of melanin but, like hydroquinone, cannot degrade or clear melanin that has already been deposited throughout the layers of the epidermis. Instead, hyperpigmented layers of skin are removed by the Lumixyl GlycoPeel 20 Rapid Exfoliating Lotion that serves to exfoliate the stratum corneum and accelerate cellular turnover in the epidermis.

**Who is the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System for?**

The Lumixyl Topical Brightening System works best for people of all skin types (Fitzpatrick Photo-types) having mild to moderate epidermal hyperpigmentation. It is also ideal on its own for anyone looking for a skin health regimen that will help prevent photo-damage for brighter skin, and healthier skin function.

**Why use the GlycoPeel 20 AFTER application of the topical brightening cream and not before?**

Most skin care systems use a toner/exfoliation first followed by a treatment cream. GlycoPeel 20 is used after the Lumixyl Topical Brightening Creme because it aids in the penetration of the Lumixyl peptide (Decapeptide-12). The logic behind this is: we first apply the product that targets lower layers of the epidermis (in this case, decapeptide-12 targets the basal epidermis), then we follow with those products that target more superficial layers of the epidermis (in this case, the GlycoPeel 20 is meant to target the stratum corneum – top most layer of skin). Hence, we employ a “pulse and chase” strategy to enhance penetration of key ingredients in the Lumixyl Topical Brightening Creme. For example, most people feel a tingling sensation when they apply the GlycoPeel 20, meaning that it is reaching deeper layers of skin. We reason that since the GlycoPeel 20 is able to penetrate deeply into skin, that it acts as a penetration enhancer driving further penetration of decapeptide-12. You can think of the GlycoPeel 20 as a rocket booster that propels the rocket (Lumixyl peptide) into space (basal epidermis).

**Can the Lumixyl System be used to treat deeper dermal hyperpigmentation?**

Yes, the Lumixyl System can be used to treat deeper dermal melasma when coupled with laser resurfacing or aggressive physician mediated chemical peeling procedures. In these cases it can be used as a preparatory conditioning system to begin addressing the epidermal hyperpigmentation areas and to prepare skin for better results from the procedure, as well as being used post procedure to enhance the results and maintain brighter healthier skin.

**Can the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System be used in combination with Tretinoin to treat acne lesions and acne-related postinflammatory hyperpigmentation (PIH) at the same time?**

Yes. The Lumixyl Topical Brightening System can be used in combination with tretinoin (0.1%, 0.05% & 0.025%) to treat PIH and acne lesions at the same time. However, keep in mind that tolerability must be managed effectively when using tretinoin with the System. When using tretinoin everyday at night, the GlycoPeel 20 Lotion should be used every third day in the morning. All other products in the Lumixyl System can be used as directed in the inner flap of the Lumixyl System carton.

**Can the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System be used with ascorbic acid serums?**

Yes, the Lumixyl Topical Brightening System can be used while also using ascorbic acid serums. However, please be aware that Vitamin C serums tend to be irritating to skin due to the low pH of formulas containing 5% ascorbic acid or higher. Hence, tolerability needs to be managed by alternating use of the GlycoPeel 20 Lotion with the ascorbic acid serums every other day or as prescribed by a physician.

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