

Laser Therapy

Practical Guide



Mano
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Medical equipment for veterinarians

LASER THERAPY

Wavelengths:

▶ 640 nm:

Superficial

Photo-coagulant
Anti-œdematous

▶ 810 nm :

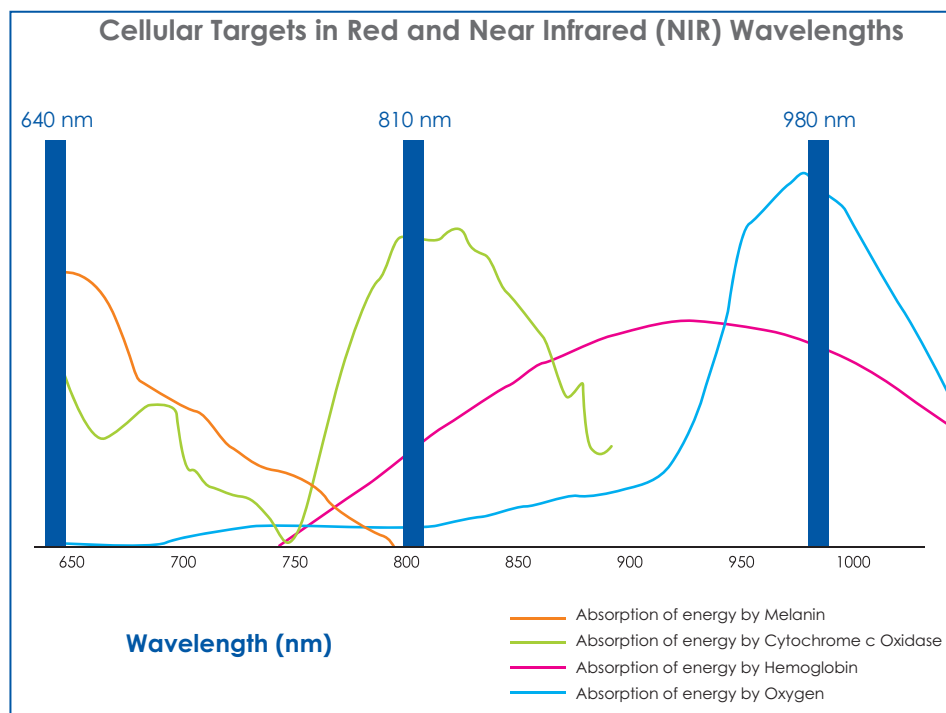
Deep

Production of ATP (energy,
anti-inflammatory)
Regeneration of muscles
and tendons

▶ 980 nm :

Deep

Production of ATP release
Oxygen absorption
Optimal water absorption
Absorption by haemoglobin
Action on the peripheral nervous
system (Gate Control type), e.g. Heat



General instructions for treatment set-up:

Clean hair: if possible, cut the fur/coat shorter. (50 to 90% of light can be absorbed by the hair)

Hair and skin colour are important factors as melanin absorbs the energy from short wavelengths.

Prior to treatment ensure all PPE is worn: Laser Glasses.

During a treatment ensure that your patient is positioned correctly and comfortably.

During the treatment continuously move the handpiece to cover a large area; whilst monitoring the temperature of the treatment area with your other hand.

▶ Techniques for the movement of the handpiece:

- Move from proximal to distal
- You can move the handpieces in a point to point movement.

This treatment can take time. Therefore, most people apply the laser in a scanning motion.

▶ Techniques of applying the probe

- Contact: Using the massage ball applicator. Care must be taken on bony prominences or injured tissue as can cause pain.

- Non-contact: Using the non-contact applicator head.

You can hold the applicator head against the skin, but at no point does the laser beam directly come into contact with the tissue.



22 rue Charles de Gaulle
22100 Lanvallay - France
Tel. +33 (0)2 96 85 86 76

export@manomedical.com

www.manomedical.com

Biological effect: reduction of oedema and inflammation

▶ Action of Photo biomodulation (PBM) stimulation on pain Receptors

Laser light can regenerate damaged nerve endings. Laser light works by increasing nerve transmission, whilst also reducing the pain signal by means of blocking the pain pathway.

▶ Action of PBM on the transmission of pain impulses

Laser light slows down the conductivity of the pain pathway. Laser reduces the pain signal messages by reducing a synaptic substance called Substance P; Substance P is the main mediator in the transmission of a pain stimulus. (Poitte, 2013).

▶ PBM and pain relief

Laser causes a significant increase in the level of endorphins in the blood and has a desirable effect on nerve fibres by suppressing neurons activated by a pain stimulus. It can be said that laser creates an opioid effect.

Applications for the reduction of pain

- Pain Reduction and applications
- Peripheral nerve damage
- Muscle tension
- Traumatic pain
- Post-operative pain
- Spinal disease
- Neuralgia
- Muscle paralysis



LASER THERAPY

Biological effect: reduction of oedema and inflammation

- ▶ Reduction in the number of polymorphonuclear cells. Reduction in cells associated with infections and allergic reactions. Laser reduces inflammation and stimulates phagocytic action and macrophages.
- ▶ Reduce concentrations of pro-inflammatory cytokines- reduce inflammation and promote healing (anti-inflammatory).
- ▶ Reduction of prostaglandins E2 level – by promoting relaxation of smooth muscle and constriction of blood vessels which results in modulation of inflammation.
- ▶ Increase lymphatic vessel function- by increasing microcirculation and dilation of the lymphatic vessels. This effect allows an anti-oedematous action whilst promoting the elimination of waste and acid residues.

Applications for reduction of oedema and inflammation:

- Folliculitis, abscess, skin infections
- Atopic dermatitis
- Tendinitis, ligament disease
- Otitis, rhinitis
- Stomatitis
- Sepsis
- Chronic lymphoedema or post lymphoedema
- Post thrombotic
- Post traumatic oedema
- Haematomas
- Bruises
- ...



Biological effect on Tissue healing

▶ Inflammatory/detersive phase

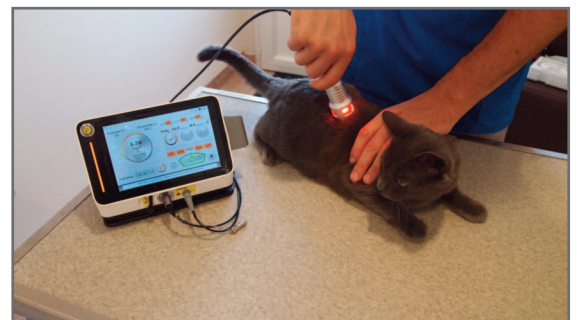
This process is accelerated by the modulation of the inflammatory response. Laser light increases the phagocytic activity of the macrophages and the neutrophils increasing the articulation of growth factors.

▶ Proliferative phase

Laser light helps to form granulation tissue by increasing the activity of fibroblasts along with their collagen synthesis activity. It also improves local neo-angiogenesis, helping epithelisation through stimulation, growth and movement of keratinocytes. Whilst increasing the number of myofibroblasts helping contraction.

Applications for healing of the skin, muscles, tendons and ligaments :

- Post traumatic
- Post-operative
- Ulcers- decubitus lesions
- Burns
- Ruptured muscle fibres
- Tendon ruptures
- Nerve damage (traumatic, inflammatory)
- Cartilage disease and damage
- Osteoarthritis
- Fractures, bone disorders



Laser Therapy and physiotherapy:

Laser therapy and physiotherapy complement each other well. It is recommended to carry out a laser treatment prior to a physiotherapy session.

The laser will heat and prepare the muscle for massage, relaxing the area to be treated and improving vascular supply.

Together laser and physiotherapy promote the removal of toxins and impurities from the tissue and muscle, thus resulting in a more effective treatment than using laser or physiotherapy alone, leading to higher success rates of treatment overall.

LASER THERAPY



Choice of protocol:

▶ Depth reached

You need to know the wavelengths available on the laser in order to understand the depth of penetration.
630 to 740 nm: skin and acupuncture point
750 to 1500 nm: ligaments, intra-articular structure,... Penetration: factor difficult to assess with precision.

▶ Quantity of Joules delivered

The power (mW or W) must be known in order to determine the energy in J / s and the therapeutic dose.
For example: a laser with P = 10 W delivers 20 J of energy for 2 continuous seconds. But in pulsed mode, 50% ON and 50% OFF, will give 10 J for 2 seconds.

Your Mano Medical laser integrates all the necessary pre-recorded programs!

Treatment techniques:

▶ Surgical wound

Immediately following a procedure.
Contraindicated following mass removal of potential neoplastic tissue. As laser promotes cell proliferation.

▶ Surgical wound

Immediately after the procedure
Not after removal of mass which can be neoplastic because the laser promotes cell proliferation
Min 3 times / week - 7 to 10 days

▶ Licking granuloma

Source of the granuloma identified and treated
On the granuloma and at least 1 cm around
At the start every day
Until healing and hair regrowth

▶ Osteoarthritis

Accurate diagnosis necessary before treatment to be certain of the cause of the pain.
Movement analysis, pain scale, body score, ROM

▶ Hip

Fully treated joint
Start with the greater trochanter of the femur. Then cranial, medial and then caudal direction in a circumferential area
Often associated low back pain, so do not hesitate to treat the back

▶ Stifle

Start on the patella and move medially or laterally to treat around the joint.
Lateral cruciate ligaments can be treated from proximal to distal.
For muscular pain treat the tibia and fibula.



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Treatments techniques:

▶ Hock and digits

Start at the calcaneus bone. Take into account the anatomy of the hock and treat the whole area as well as the tendon.

Treat the digits and the dorsal and palmer aspects.

▶ Shoulder

Start at the level of the tubercle of the scapular spine and turn around the joint.

Sometimes bicep tendon is affected

Treat extra cervical and cervical muscles

▶ Carpus and digits

Start at the carpal bone. Treat the whole joint.

Treat the digits and the dorsal and palmer aspects.

Treat the radius and ulna as well.

▶ Cervical spine

Can be treated completely from the occipital process to the chest.

Treat the spinal muscles as well.

▶ Thoracic spine

Treat the area first by placing the laser on the vertebrae then

treat adjacent areas (including muscles)

▶ Lumbar column

Same

▶ Post-surgery

Control of oedema.

Faster healing

▶ Muscle, tendon, ligament, skin injury

Management and reduction of pain and inflammation

Improved healing

▶ Tear and elongation

Reduction of pain and inflammation.

Improved recovery

▶ Damage to the nervous system

Neuronal growth.

Pain management

▶ Osteoarthritis

Pain reduction

Reduction of inflammation

▶ Otitis

Helps to reduce inflammation in addition to conventional therapy

▶ Licking granuloma

Improves skin healing

Helps to stop irritation

Contraindications:

Absolute considerations:

- Eye exposure – **NEVER APPLY TO THE EYE AREA**

Special considerations:

- Locally injected medication
- Malignancy
- Pregnancy

Precautions:

- Active epiphyses (Growing Animals)
- Haemorrhage
- Testicles
- Thyroid gland

False contraindications:

- Hyperpigmentation and tattoos
- Implants
- Microbial infection
- Photosensitizing medication

LASER THERAPY

How often and how long for which treatments?

- ▶ **Osteoarthritis**
3 times the first week
Twice the second week
Once the third week
Then a treatment every 3 to 5 weeks according to the results
- ▶ **Wounds and difficult healing**
Once every 3 to 4 days then adapt the frequency according to the results until complete healing
- ▶ **Joint Pains**
Once every 3 to 4 days then adapt the frequency according to pain intensity and effectiveness of the treatment
- ▶ **Gingival stomatitis**
Once a day for 2 to 3 days then every 3 to 4 days
- ▶ **Post-surgical healing**
Once immediately after surgery
Once at dressing change
Once when removing the stiches (inspection visit)
- ▶ **Other treatments**
Generally speaking, any treatment of an acute problem will justify a higher frequency of treatments (several times / day if necessary) using lower powers.
Conversely, the treatment of a chronic problem will be at higher power and lower frequency.

Our support:

Take advantage of our training in small groups or remotely led by specialised veterinarians!

More information available on www.manomedical.com

Promotion of Laser Therapy in Your Clinic:

We offer to our vet clients equipped with our lasers, communication supports including posters and flyers.



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