

Radial Pulse-Based System Significantly Improves Outcomes of Fat Reduction Procedures

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While non-surgical fat reduction technologies can yield dramatic results, stubborn and residual swelling often remains present in the treated areas. This is where the ZWave from Zimmer MedizinSystems (Irvine, Calif.) comes in. Using radial pulse energy, the ZWave device enhances the outcome of cryolipolysis treatments by transmitting high-energy acoustic waves through soft tissue, which spread radially beneath the skin's surface.

Eileen Summer Black, M.D., a plastic and reconstructive surgeon in New Orleans, La., employs Cynosure's SculpSure laser treatment for non-invasive lipolysis followed by aggressive massage utilizing a series of ZWave treatments. "Heat-based treatments will reduce fat by a certain percentage," she expressed. "One thing you can get with this and similar modalities, such as cryolipolysis, are lumps or nodules, but since we've been using ZWave massage post treatment we have seen virtually none of that. It has become our routine to follow each SculpSure procedure with a series of four ZWave treatments. We have noticed that this enhances our fat reduction and results in a smoother contour."

For Brian Biesman, M.D., F.A.C.S., an oculofacial plastic surgeon in Nashville, Tenn., "ZWave provides a way to standardize the post-procedure massage, as well as make it easier on the staff. We do a lot of CoolSculpting and ZWave offers a break from having to do a lot of manual massage. The product is very easy to use."

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ZWave enhances the uniformity of results following CoolSculpting treatments, added Dr. Biesman. "It is well established that massage enhances CoolSculpting outcomes, and ZWave has helped us in a positive way to improve the consistency of patient results. It has become part of our CoolSculpting routine."

ZWave offers practitioners considerable versatility, as well, noted Dr. Summer Black. "It is not a one trick pony. I use it regularly as a post treatment therapy for almost all of our surgical procedures. For instance, ZWave relieves the swelling and firmness that occurs after performing surgical liposuction, abdominoplasty, neck-lift or brachioplasty. Three to five ZWave sessions spaced a few days apart are the equivalent of four to six weeks of manual massage. It is really impressive," she stated.

Dr. Biesman echoed these sentiments. "The ZWave treatments seem to help manage persistent post-operative swelling, although this is completely anecdotal based on our experience with a small number of patients," he noted.

In addition, Dr. Summer Black has found ZWave helpful in addressing scars. "It is good for patients who begin to form scars that are becoming hypertrophic. The company also markets the product for treating cellulite, and it works fine for that as well," she said.

Overall, patients have been very happy with results from the ZWave system. According to Dr. Black, they will even come back and ask for it by name. "They say, 'It helped me so much, can I do another one?'" she reported.



Before and after one SculpSure treatment followed by four ZWave treatments
 Photos courtesy of Eileen Summer Black, M.D.