

# SmoothShapes' Petite Laser Handpiece Allows Treatment of Smaller Areas

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Before Tx



One month after SmoothShapes Tx  
with Petite handpiece  
Photos courtesy of Khalil Khatri, M.D.



Petite handpiece and SmoothShapes XV handpiece

Aesthetic practices now have a new body shaping option for the treatment of challenging, smaller areas such as the neck, arms, knees, chin and calves. The Petite laser handpiece, for both the SmoothShapes XV and original SmoothShapes systems from Cynosure, Inc. (Westford, Mass.), offers precise energy delivery in a compact size to effectively treat difficult-to-reach areas.

"This smaller handpiece allows us to treat areas of the body that we were previously unable to with the larger, traditional SmoothShapes handpiece," said Kenneth Beer, M.D., a dermatologist in private practice in West Palm Beach, Fla. "We can now effectively treat these areas with non-invasive sculpting."

The lightweight Petite handpiece consists of three components. The mechanical manipulation and vacuum "draws the skin closer to the laser beams," explained Dr. Beer. Simultaneously, a 915 nm laser thermally alters the fat and a 650 nm light source increases the fat cell's membrane permeability allowing heated lipids to escape.

According to Dr. Beer, "The SmoothShapes device delivers power to properly heat the fat without burning the skin or surrounding tissue. The Petite handpiece allows us to increase the power delivery to a meaningful depth, thus avoiding tissue burning. Overall, you can achieve roughly a 50% increase in power density to produce the same thermal gradient and depth of penetration as the larger laser handpiece."

In Dr. Beer's office the backs of arms and loose skin on the neck are the two most popular areas treated with the Petite handpiece. However, the practice treats chins and calves as well. The patient treatment protocol with the Petite is similar to the original: eight sessions, twice weekly. "We anticipate that six

months down the road, patients will return for one or two enhancement procedures, followed six months later by perhaps another one or two," noted Dr. Beer, who is also a clinical assistant professor of dermatology at the University of Miami (Miami, Fla.). "Treatments, on average, take 15 to 20 minutes."

"Treatment is safe and effective," said Dr. Beer. "Although it is early, the results are impressive. The Petite handpiece offers physicians a really nice opportunity to treat some hard-to-reach places and to improve areas that are problematic for a large population of patients. I believe there is a large market for the Petite."

While Dr. Beer's office only schedules stand-alone therapy with the Petite handpiece, several of his plastic surgery colleagues use it as combination therapy after traditional liposuction "to smooth out the lumps and bumps. The Petite is really effective for smoothing," he said. Dr. Beer also believes "there is definitely a market to treat smaller patients for cellulite. Though I have yet to encounter a patient that was so tiny I couldn't use the regular handpiece, I can envision a scenario where that would be important."

Several clinical studies of SmoothShapes validate the mechanism of action, including wavelength efficacy, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and ultrasound measurements, circumferential reduction and 3D imaging. "I've reviewed these studies and I've actually been quite impressed," said Dr. Beer. "MRI is a quantifiable measurement – as opposed to a soft call – which is the best for a clinical trial. Likewise, ultrasound offers you the opportunity to quantify the change. I appreciate the company taking the time, effort and expense of confirming its technology through very objective measurements and publishing these studies in peer-reviewed journals."