

VANITY & VITALITY  
TEXT KAREN TAN

# SKINBLITZ

TWO NEW SKIN TREATMENTS UTILISING TIME-EFFECTIVE LIGHT TECHNOLOGY AND MODERN LASER RESURFACING METHODS AT THE SLOANE CLINIC PUT IT LIGHTYEARS AHEAD



Sleek, funky and edgy, The Sloane Clinic is nothing like what you'd imagine of a clinic.

THE SLOANE CLINIC  
Village Space Branch  
43 Jalan Merah Saga  
#01-68 Chip Bee Gardens  
Tel: 6471 1108  
Opening hours:  
Tue - Fri: 10am - 8pm  
Sat & Sun: 10am - 4pm  
closed Monday and public holidays

If you have acne woes but hardly the time to treat them, or are seeking to revitalise your visage without the risk of your face peeling off, technological salvation is at hand at The Sloane Clinic in Chip Bee Gardens. The clinic proffers some of the latest technological advances in skin treatment with a comprehensive range of products to match. "We offer two of the latest technologies which nobody else in Singapore has – the PPx and Fraxel. They are faster, pain-free and more effective when treating troubled or ageing skin," shares Dr Kenneth Lee, who runs the Village Space branch of The Sloane Clinic.

PPx (photopneumatic therapy) is a light-based treatment similar to the more conventional IPL (Intense Pulse Light), but with a few modifications and improvements. Traditionally, IPL treatments involve the use of a topical anaesthetic and can take up to two hours to complete. With PPx, only about five to ten minutes is required. It's also pain-free and there are fewer chances of side effects like burns. PPx can treat a wide range of skin imperfections such as small fine lines, pigments and acne. Aesthera, which develops and manufactures the product used in PPx, just received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in late April this year, and Sloane is the first clinic in Southeast Asia to offer PPx treatments. They cost \$600 a session, while a package of six sessions costs \$3,000.

Fraxel is another state-of-the-art procedure. According to Dr Lee, traditional laser resurfacing 'burns' off the top layer of skin and results in raw, bloody skin which takes between three to six months to heal with risks of infection. With Fraxel, instead of burning off 100 per cent of the skin, only 20 per cent is removed in microscopic spots at any one time. As such, four to five treatments would be required to treat all of the skin. However, there is no downtime required for Fraxel, which is its major advantage. One session of Fraxel treatment will set you back \$1,250, and a package of five sessions \$5,000.

The clinic also carries the Epicuren range of products renowned for its ability to heal burned skin and is popular with Hollywood celebrities. Sloane is one of just two clinics in Singapore that carries Epicuren's enzyme skincare treatment products, which include cleansers, acne treatments, skin nutrition and speciality serums.

Boasting five treatment rooms, Sloane's decor is not quite what you expect of a clinic. "We wanted something different from our practice downtown, which has a very tropical, spa-like feel with warm wood and lush greenery," explains Dr Lee. "Since the surroundings outside are already quite green and woody, we wanted our clinic to stand in contrast to that, so we went for something funkier and edgier." With its bold black-and-white stripes, curved walls and brightly coloured furnishings, you'd be forgiven for thinking that you've stumbled upon an ultra-hip and funky watering hole.