

Use of a dual-mode erbium:YAG laser for the surgical correction of rhinophyma.

[Fincher EF](#), [Gladstone HB](#).

Division of Dermatologic Surgery, Department of Dermatology, Stanford University School of Medicine, 900 Blake Wilbur Drive, Stanford, CA 94305, USA.

Rhinophyma is a cosmetically deforming disorder characterized by nodular hypertrophy of the nasal soft tissue. Treatment of rhinophyma usually consists of laser ablation or surgical excision for correction of the associated tissue deformity. We describe 6 patients with mild to severe rhinophyma who were treated with a dual-mode erbium:YAG (Er:YAG) laser, which provides the advantages of controlled ablative energy for tissue reduction and excellent intraoperative hemostasis. Outcome measures included patient satisfaction, clinician observer ratings, and an assessment of complications, including scarring, pigment abnormalities, and postoperative bleeding. All patients were satisfied with their outcomes, and no complications were detected during follow-up. All treatment outcomes were rated as very good to excellent at a 3-month follow-up visit. The flexibility of the dual-mode Er:YAG laser provides both controlled ablation and hemostasis, making it an ideal laser for the surgical treatment of rhinophyma.