

# Top Tips

## Laser, IPL and LED

All optical radiation equipment can have hazardous effects, particularly on the eyes or skin. Appropriate working practices and control mechanisms should be adopted to prevent such events.



### Health and safety management

To minimise risk all equipment/engineering and administrative safety control measures should be established prior to introducing personal protective measures.



### Communication

It is vital that all staff involved in the patient/client's treatment are aware of each other's role during treatment. Good communication between staff is essential.



### Eye protection

Seek advice from your laser protection advisor on what protective eyewear should be used with each device. Eye protection should be available for staff as well as patients/clients. Before wearing the eye protection, make sure it is fit for use.



### Local rules

All healthcare establishments should have written local rules specific to each clinical application and for each laser, IPL and LED device. All staff involved in the use of these devices should read the local rules and sign them to indicate that they have been understood. This should be undertaken **before** staff use the equipment.



### Training

All staff should receive training on each specific laser or IPL before they use the equipment. Additional training may be necessary if changes, including software upgrades, are made to the equipment. Training should be documented.



### Instructions for use

Ensure all laser, IPL or LED equipment is operated and controlled in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Be aware of the manufacturer's warnings and any associated hazards during equipment use.



### Accessories

Ensure that accessories (optical fibres, tips, connectors etc) are suitable for both the make and model of device that they are to be used with. Only use the accessories in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.



### Maintenance

The equipment must be maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions to ensure it performs correctly.



### Faults

Equipment error messages or fault should be recorded in the equipment fault log. The log should be regularly reviewed. Take appropriate action and inform the laser protection advisor or laser protection supervisor of all issues.

Detailed information available in DB 2008(03) Guidance on the safe use of lasers, IPL systems and LEDs – on our website.

### Report adverse incidents

Online [www.mhra.gov.uk](http://www.mhra.gov.uk) ♦ email [aic@mhra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:aic@mhra.gsi.gov.uk) ♦ hotline 020 3080 7080