

CLASSYS

ULTRAFORMER MPT

'K-HIFU': A Device Considering Both Patient Needs and Practitioner Convenience



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The Reason for Its Enduring Popularity

All aesthetic procedures involve a period of downtime and may elicit responses such as edema, bruise, pain, and erythema. However, in today's fast-paced society, particularly in Korea, many patients require treatments that allow a swift return to daily life. Furthermore, the global popularity of K-pop and K-beauty has led to a surge in international patients who seek immediate procedural results, allowing them to enjoy their travels in Korea looking and feeling their best. As aesthetic medicine has become routine in Korea, the demand for procedures with minimal downtime and immediate effects continues to rise. In line with this trend, dermatological procedures are now viewed as an extension of skincare, accelerating technological development to meet the needs of both domestic and international patients.

From the 2000s to the 2010s, numerous medical device companies competitively launched aesthetic devices based on high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU). HIFU devices gained immense popularity for their ability to non-invasively deliver energy deep into the skin, stimulating collagen and inducing a lifting effect with minimal downtime and rapid results. Among these, ULTRAFORMER III is arguably the most widely adopted device in the Korean aesthetic market. Having used both the first-generation ULTRAFORMER III and the ULTRAFORMER MPT, Dr. Han offers his perspective on the factors behind its widespread success. Dr. Han attributes this success not just to marketing but to a precise understanding of patient needs coupled with meticulous attention to practitioner convenience. A device cannot earn trust merely by delivering powerful energy.

It must meet several criteria: Is energy delivered precisely to each skin layer? Does it enable customized treatments via diverse cartridges? And critically, is it efficient and user-friendly for the clinician? Only a device that satisfies all these conditions can achieve long-term success in the market. As aesthetic technology advances, more sophisticated and effective HIFU devices will inevitably emerge. The ULTRAFORMER MPT will be a reference on the critical importance of aligning technological excellence with the needs of both patients and clinicians.

Device Introduction and Features

The ULTRAFORMER MPT utilizes high-intensity focused ultrasound to create thermal coagulation points directly within the SMAS layer, resulting in tissue contraction and collagen remodeling. This process precisely delivers energy to the upper dermis, reticular dermis and SMAS layer without epidermal injury, resulting in improved skin elasticity, reduced wrinkles, and an overall lifting effect. Equipped with 1.5 mm, 3.0 mm, and 4.5 mm cartridges, the ULTRAFORMER MPT allows practitioners to tailor treatments to different skin depths. Its booster cartridges also allow for precise application to narrow or contoured areas like the periorbital, perioral, and neck regions.

Currently, the 4.5 mm depth is the primary target for HIFU procedures to tighten the SMAS layer effectively. Consequently, many aesthetic device manufacturers produce 4.5 mm bar-type cartridges. However, Dr. Han finds that the Derma Booster cartridges (1.5mm) of the ULTRAFORMER MPT offer superior versatility for treating diverse patients and various anatomical areas.



Dr. Woocheol Han performing a ULTRAFORMER MPT procedure. Photo courtesy of Classys.

As aesthetic skin procedures become more accessible, the demand for lifting treatments among mature patients is also increasing. Reviewing recent patient consults reveals a growing demand to improve narrow, curved areas that are difficult for conventional bar-type cartridges to treat, such as the periorbital, perioral, and neck regions. This is often driven by the chief complaint that enlarged pores connect to one another, creating the appearance of fine lines. In these cases, the 7 MHz, 1.5 mm Derma Booster cartridge ensures complete contact with these contoured surfaces. This enables a more stable procedure than the bar-type cartridges and minimizes intra-procedural irritation, pain, and edema.

When used with the deep synergy booster (DSB) AURORA AMPLE, improvements in skin texture and tone can also be anticipated. The AURORA AMPLE contains glutathione, hyaluronic acid, and PDRN. The ultrasonic vibration of the booster cartridge enhances the dermal penetration of these active ingredients to improve skin quality.

Patient satisfaction with the post-procedural brightening effect is high, and accumulated clinical data shows a reduction in patient complaints of heat and dryness following treatment.

Combination Therapies in Clinical Practice

The “Volrink” Protocol: VOLNEWMER and ULTRAFOREMR MPT

Dr. Han believes that the launch of Classys’s VOLNEWMER has solidified the ULTRAFOREMR MPT’s position as an essential device in the clinic. Patients who maintained their skin elasticity and prevented ptosis with ULTRAFOREMR MPT in their 20s and 30s often return in their mid-30s and 40s, seeking to improve tissue volume and further enhance elasticity. By combining these two modalities, the ULTRAFOREMR MPT provides lifting and structural improvement at the SMAS layer. At the same time, the VOLNEWMER(MARKETED IN THE U.S. AS EVERESSE) RF device addresses fine lines, pores, and texture in the epidermis and dermis, maximizing overall skin rejuvenation.

The shot counts for ULTRAFOREMR MPT and VOLNEWMER(MARKETED IN THE U.S. AS EVERESSE) are adjusted based on the patient’s age. For patients in their 20s and 30s with good skin elasticity who desire a smoother, more defined facial line, increasing the ULTRAFOREMR MPT shot count and applying VOLNEWMER(MARKETED IN THE U.S. AS EVERESSE) in mid facial areas yields excellent results.

In contrast, patients in their 40s and 50s often present with both skin sagging and volume loss. For them, it is better to substantially increase the VOLNEWMER(MARKETED IN THE U.S. AS EVERESSE) shot count to

restore volume and to use ULTRAFOREMR MPT to create targeted thermal coagulation points in the SMAS, carefully avoiding cheek hollowing to focus on natural results and volume restoration. Thus, the “Volrink(Volformer)” protocol, combining VOLNEWMER(MARKETED IN THE U.S. AS EVERESSE) and ULTRAFOREMR MPT, allows for both immediate and long-term improvements, enabling personalized treatments tailored to the patient’s skin condition and age.

Combination with Fillers or Thread Lifts

Patients sometimes mistakenly believe that a lifting procedure like HIFU will also restore volume to hollowed facial areas. However, despite the tightening and lifting effects it provides, HIFU cannot compensate for lost volume. So, how should we manage the expectations of patients with moderate to severe skin laxity who are hoping for dramatic results from a single HIFU session? In these cases, practitioners should consider fillers or a thread lift as the primary treatment, rather than HIFU alone, to address the primary concern. For patients with hollow cheek, HIFU can improve overall skin elasticity while carefully avoiding the sunken areas, and hyaluronic acid fillers can be injected to restore volume and improve the global facial contour. Furthermore, optimal results can be achieved in patients with moderate to severe sagging by physically elevating the SMAS and, if necessary, the fat layer, while using HIFU to debulk and further tighten the lifted region.

Dr. Han generally recommends performing HIFU prior to fillers or thread lifts. It is advised to wait at least 4–6 weeks post-injection or thread placement before a

HIFU treatment to avoid excessive stimulation or potential filler displacement. Thus, the ULTRAFOREMR MPT is an excellent adjunctive modality to complement filler and thread lift procedures.

Application Following Facial Liposuction

There is a growing trend of patients undergoing facial liposuction with microcannulas without incisions. This minimally invasive procedure removes fat from diet-resistant areas like the submental and buccal fat pads, immediately improving the facial contour. A key advantage is that once fat cells are removed, they do not regenerate, allowing patients to maintain the sculpted result even without strict dieting. However, if the skin lacks sufficient elasticity, post-liposuction laxity or sagging may occur. Significant fat removal increases the risk of inadequate skin retraction and subsequent ptosis in older patients or those with poor skin elasticity. Here, ULTRAFOREMR MPT serves as an excellent combination therapy to help prevent this laxity and promote collagen synthesis with minimal pain.

Because liposuction physically disrupts the skin and fat layers, an initial recovery period is required. If HIFU is performed before post-liposuction edema, ecchymosis, and pain have fully resolved, it can cause excessive stimulation to the tissues. Clinical experience indicates that significant edema and ecchymosis typically subside within four weeks. Dr. Han advises patients to undergo the ULTRAFOREMR MPT procedure between 4–6 weeks post-liposuction, allowing sufficient time for tissue recovery.



Dr. Woocheol Han described the combination of VOLNEWMER(MARKETED IN THE U.S. AS EVERESSE) and ULTRAFOREMR MPT as “an optimal pairing that allows for both immediate lifting effects and long-term improvements in skin elasticity.” Photo courtesy of Dr. Woocheol Han

Precautions and Contraindications

As with any HIFU procedures, special caution must be taken around the facial and trigeminal nerves. Failure to do so can cause intra-procedural pain and post-procedural paresthesia. Additionally, excessive energy delivery to the periosteum can cause pain and periostitis. In areas with a thin subcutaneous fat layer—such as the infraorbital region—excessive energy may cause unwanted fat reduction and visible hollowing. The procedure is contraindicated in pregnant women as its safety profile has not been established. It should also be avoided in patients with implantable electronic devices, such as pacemakers, or metal implants near the treatment area. Furthermore, patients with active infections or skin conditions like herpes simplex or bacterial dermatitis should defer treatment until the condition is resolved to avoid exacerbation. Patients with coagulopathy or those taking anticoagulant medications must also be treated with caution.