Next-Gen RF Tech Leads the Way for Facial Fat and Skin Tightening

By Kevin Wilson, Contributing Editor

From its beginnings, the potential of monopolar radiofrequency (RF) was evident, but there were obstacles to its success. Most were overcome, but one offering's continued development and improvement has kept the technology firmly at the forefront of aesthetic options worldwide. "South Korea's 2023 introduction of nearly painless monopolar radiofrequency for dermal redensification was a significant innovation and is further evidence of the country's position in modern aesthetic medicine," said Cristopher Cunha, MD, a plastic surgeon at Fakiani Clinic (São Paulo, Brazil). "The technology was globally commercialized; its treatment protocols are constantly being refined and clinical strategies are well-established."

Cleared by both the FDA and Health Canada, Volnewmer from Classys, Inc. (Seoul, South Korea) is currently positioned among the top energy-based devices in 2026 for the reduction of cutaneous laxity and the improvement of skin quality, according to Dr. Cunha. "This 6.78 MHz nonsurgical RF facial rejuvenation treatment is designed to address as well as prevent the signs of skin aging. It can also be used to provide subcutaneous heating that reduces localized fat in the face, chin, neck and body. Even through just the first few years since its introduction, Volnewmer has brought new therapeutic possibilities for effectively treating areas traditionally considered challenging, even from a plastic surgeon's perspective, such as the lower eyelids, the malar mound and fixed frontal rhytides."

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Volnewmer's rapid growth and popularity is largely due to the way its development has been aligned with industry-wide trends. "Increased demand for nonsurgical procedures is driven by the aging population seeking anti-aging solutions as well as the impact of social media and the increased awareness of non-invasive procedures," Dr. Cunha stated. "The trend is toward the kind of more natural-looking results Volnewmer provides, with minimal downtime. And comfort during treatment is dramatically improved compared to older RF devices."

Its appeal is evident by the results of a 2024 study[1] on the treatment experience and overall patient satisfaction with Volnewmer, published just before its April 2024 FDA clearance was granted. Subjects (n=50) were given a single full-face treatment using Volnewmer without anesthesia; they noted improvement in skin laxity, texture and tone contributing to the device's 82% satisfaction rate. Other major factors include treatment tolerability and low downtime.

Several key features differentiate Volnewmer from other RF devices, explained Dr. Cunha. "Its continuous water-cooling system protects the epidermis, helps prevent burns and significantly reduces discomfort during treatment. This cooling is combined with four-step vibration technology which acts as a neural distraction mechanism. Together, these features significantly reduce discomfort during treatment, making the procedure much more comfortable for patients," he said.

The variety of interchangeable tips allow clinicians to treat different areas of the face and body with precision and customization. Each tip configuration (the 4 cm^2 V Tip, 0.25 cm^2 I Tip, 16 cm^2 S Tip, and 3 cm^2 F Tip) has a curved surface and a rounded tip head. Flexible at the head, these accommodate movement more easily across the skin during treatment. "Curved and tilted design of the handpiece tips themselves makes them shaped and angled to adapt to the natural contours of the face and body. By ensuring more consistent contact with the skin, energy delivery is more consistent and overall treatment results are improved."

Energy delivery is a key component to the

Before and after treatment with Volnewmer monopolar radiofrequency
Photos courtesy of Cristopher Cunha, MD

safety and efficacy of the device as well. “Many traditional RF devices use lower frequencies or less focused energy,” he continued. “High-frequency 6.78 MHz monopolar RF enhances collagen contraction and stimulation, leading to stronger and more appealing outcomes. Unlike some RF devices that emit energy in short bursts, Volnewmer delivers a continuous and consistent pulse, improving the depth and quality of tissue heating while reducing discomfort.” As with similar therapies, the results manifest over three to six months after treatment and optimally persist for up to one year. And unlike many established competing devices, Volnewmer treatment cartridges are not tied to a time lock system regulating their use. This way, physicians are not pressured to treat so many patients in a specific timeframe.

Volnewmer is a powerful stand-alone treatment but is additionally appealing as an ideal adjunct to surgery. “An important evolution has been combining Volnewmer not only with injectables and other energy-based treatments, but also with surgical procedures. Improving skin quality before or after a facelift enhances skin thickness, elasticity and collagen support, which may contribute to better healing, more refined results and longer-lasting surgical outcomes.”

“The treatment protocol depends on whether the treatment is combined with surgical procedures such as liposuction or facelift, or performed alone,” Dr. Cunha added. “Part of the device’s development has been the continuous focus on improving these treatment protocols. Over time, physicians have learned how to better adjust energy settings, refine techniques and improve patient selection in order to achieve stronger collagen stimulation with greater safety and comfort, for better results and more consistent patient satisfaction.”

After surgery, Dr. Cunha recommends starting 60 days post-procedure. At least two sessions are performed, with a 45- to 60-day interval between them. “After a facelift, I use it to enhance the longevity of surgical results and additionally improve the frontal region. After liposuction, I use it for patients with skin laxity, especially around the umbilical area.”

Before and after treatment with Volnewmer monopolar radiofrequency
Photos courtesy of Cristopher Cunha, MD

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Without surgery Dr. Cunha recommends three sessions. “If the goal is collagen stimulation and skin tightening, sessions are spaced 90 days apart. My best results are in the periorbital and frontal areas, especially in patients with static wrinkles.”

“Practically everyone can benefit, especially patients over 30,” he said, “because after the age of 30, collagen production naturally decreases, and collagen stimulation becomes more important. Since the treatment is so rapid and tolerable, and requires no downtime, I recommend it to patients who want to maintain a youthful and natural appearance.”

Reference:

1. Hwang Y, Arayaskul S, Vachiramon V, Yi KH. Subjective evaluation of monopolar radiofrequency treatment by patients in aesthetic rejuvenation. Skin Res Technol. 2024 Feb;30(2):e13593