

Carbon Dioxide Laser Application in Head and Neck Surgery

The principle of the laser (light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation) was discovered by Maiman (ruby laser) in 1960. The first successful gas laser, a helium-neon continuous wave unit was developed at Bell Laboratories in the late 1960s. Since then laser technology has grown to encompass many different varieties of lasers.

Presently, there are essentially three major types of lasers available for clinical application:

1. The Carbon Dioxide Laser
2. The Argon Laser
3. The Neodymium YAG Laser

Since its introduction into medicine, the laser has been found beneficial in the treatment of many clinical problems in Head and Neck Surgery, Otolaryngology, Neuro-Surgery, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, General Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Gynecology and Urology.

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