

## P3

### LASER INDUCED CONTACT ALLERGY IN A BLACK TATTOO

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A 30-year old woman consulted for removal of professional black tattoos on both shoulders. Laser treatment was started with a 1064 Q-switched Nd-Yag laser with manifest bleaching of the tattoos. After 5 treatments she developed blistering within 24 hours after laser treatment; this was confirmed by repeating laser treatment on a small test area. Patch testing with the European standard series confirmed contact allergy to nickel sulphate. This was known by the patient since many years and not related to the tattooing. The black Rotring ink that had been used for tattooing was tested as such but did not react. Qs-Nd-Yag 1064 lasered Rotring ink however evoked a positive reaction within 24 hours persisting for nearly one week. Allergies to tattoo colorants have been reported and different clinical manifestations have been observed ranging from eczematous to lichenoid, granulomatous and pseudolymphomatous reactions, more in particular to red pigments. Localized but also generalised reactions to nickel in tattoo ink have also been described. Light (UV) induced itching and localised reactions in tattoos are documented. Laser induced allergic reactions however are very uncommon.