Effective July 1, 2013, the Medical Board of California is adding Section 1364.50 to Article 10, Chapter 13, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations regarding physician availability for elective cosmetic procedures using laser or intense pulse light devices performed by physician assistants and other licensed health care providers.

§1264.50  Physician Availability: Elective Cosmetic Procedures

Whenever an elective cosmetic procedure involving the use of a laser or intense pulse light device is performed by a licensed health care provider acting within the scope of his or her license, a physician with relevant training and expertise shall be immediately available to the provider. For purposes of this section, “immediately available” means contactable by electronic or telephonic means without delay, interruptible, and able to furnish appropriate assistance and direction throughout the performance of the procedure and to inform the patient of provisions for post procedure care. Such provisions shall be contained in the licensed health care provider’s standard procedures or protocols.