

out magazine

the male prune

Gay men have a love/hate relationship with body hair. I shaved my chest for the entire decade of the '90s. An old boyfriend once trimmed his bush into what amounted to a wide, thick moustache. (I felt like I was going down on a pair of Groucho glasses.) Last fall, when I worked for adult filmmakers Titan and Falcon within weeks of each other, one studio was mortified that the other might make me shave my nether regions. (I didn't.) Tastes change, and hair seems to be back. The guys in porn-myself included-are hairier now. I like it. Hair is sexy.

Just south of my navel, however, there is a little patch I'd like to be permanently rid of. I discovered long ago that a slight trim of my pubes around the base of my penis gives it the illusion of additional length. Not that I'm worried about that: I am an adult-video professional, after all. But every millimeter helps. And since a scruffy scrotum is less sensitive than a smooth one--away with that hair as well!

Tired of the perpetual shaving required to maintain this charade, I decided to avail myself of the Aurora hair removal system, which claims to be the latest, the newest, the absolute best hair removal technology being offered today. Laser Cosmetica, a spa in the Murray Hill neighborhood of Manhattan, uses Aurora's technology to trim the genital area in a procedure called the "Male Prune," created by the spa's skin-care professionals under the leadership of owner Ryan Bloch.

Laser Cosmetica, which offers hair removal for a variety of body parts, has found that the genital area is the most commonly requested--by gay men--to worked on. (As opposed to eyebrows, which heterosexuals tend to want

modified; another example of straight men disastrously spearheading a fashion trend.)

After describing what I wanted done, Olivia, my technician at Laser Cosmetica, handed me a blue paper skirt to wear as I sat in a matching blue chair for the procedure. With her hands encased in, yes, blue rubber gloves, she gently spread blue conductant gel on "the area to be treated." The only clashing accessories were the Emerald City-green safety glasses she and I both donned.

The implement used is roughly the size and shape of a travel iron. The tip emits radio frequencies and a tiny flash of light, which kills the hair follicles (as opposed to heat-producing lasers in traditional electrolysis.) There really is no discomfort during the procedure; simply a--pardon the expression--little prick. Generally, there's no redness or irritation afterward (again, unlike traditional electrolysis), and no numbing cream is needed. The entire procedure takes mere minutes.

Be forewarned, however; it ain't cheap. What I had done--basically an orbital trim round the family jewels--cost \$400 per session. A detailed menu was offered for my perusal, and the prices for other areas of the body pretty much fell into that range.

Olivia begins the first treatment on a low-intensity setting ("So I don't cook my clients"), and after the full course of six sessions, the results are guaranteed.

How will you know if it worked for me? Buy my videos next year and you'll see!