History

Israel is a country where
To be complimented is rather rare,
And, no matter how hard one may strive,
One is unlikely to be complimented while still alive.
It is now almost forty years,
Since I was being judged by my peers,
And when they failed to find the patients I was killing,
They said that to make false claims I was willing.
So instead of being the Jew that wandered,
I became the one that was slandered.
Eventually, however, things began to change,
And how this happened, was rather strange.
My compatriots resisted conviction,
But foreign surgeons showed less restriction.
About it’s advantage in plastic surgery I was enthused
But, to accept it, other plastic surgeons refused.
This did not surprise me, I must confess,
And the reason why, you may guess.
So, to promote it there, I did the best I can,
And it was adopted by Pariente in Italy and Nimsakul in Japan.
In the meantime, other specialties became involved,
So, the problem of spreading the gospel was gradually solved.
So, eventually, when all was said and done,
The CO2 laser became the one
For surgery in every field,
Because of the advantages it would yield.
By nineteen seventy five
The CO2 laser began to thrive,
So, I decided that the time was due
To invite those doctors who
Were involved with lasers in every medical branch
In order, to tell of their experience, to be given the chance.
So, in Tel Aviv, a symposium was arranged,
Where the participants their ideas exchanged,
And at the symposium such enthusiasm abounded,
That, as a result, the International Society for Laser Surgery was founded.
This society provided a platform for the CO2 laser to be promoted,
And for the rest of my life to that I was devoted.
At the meeting in nineteen seventy five,
The number of participants was sixty five,
But the society developed at such a rate,
That, in Japan, a thousand two hundred did participate.
It was then decided to include ‘medicine’ in the name,
So The International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine it became.
And, the various meetings kept the society alive
And also helped lasers in Surgery and Medicine to thrive.
Now, in conclusion, I wish to add,
That, the situation became rather sad
When, for surgery, the CO2 laser, the one of choice became,
Manufacturers of other lasers began to claim
That their lasers could do the same,
And, it was because of this illusion,
That there existed such confusion,
When the wrong lasers were being tried,
With the expected results being denied.
So, let me end by drawing the attention
Of those, who, to use lasers is their intention,
To make sure that the laser that you acquire
Is right for the purpose that you desire.

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The CO2 surgical laser

Friends, Florentines and countrymen, lend me your ears,
I've been asked to address you on a topic better known by my peers
So to speak about lasers beside surgery, I have no right,
But, when it comes to surgery I certainly might.
Since for four decades in my professional life,
I've been intimately involved with the CO2 laser as a surgical knife.
Light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation
And it's acronym “LASER” was Einstein’s annunciation.
But Maiman made the first one over forty years on,
And it was just as well
That Kumar Patel
Came up later with the CO2 one.
Early in nineteen seventy two,
I started to see what one could do
With the CO2 laser as a surgical knife,
And have continued to do so for the rest of my life.
I therefore feel that it is now time
To record what has evolved,
And what problems have been solved,
From my being so intimately involved
The CO2 Laser is the only one until now,
That can be used to operate if the surgeon knows how.
It’s beam is water absorbable and infra red
So that of a scalpel it could be used instead.
It’s application in surgery is quite unique
Since it enables one to operate with a non touch technique.
And to perform an incision
With absolute precision,
Leaving the residual tissue undamaged,
So a primary repair of the wound can be managed
While reducing bleeding and post operative pain
With simultaneous sterilisation, an advantage again.
Debulking of tissue
Is no longer an issue
‘Cause a defocussed beam can do it with ease
And you can vaporise as much as you please.
The following is where the laser should be used,
In order to prevent it from being abused.
Like surgery in areas where vessels abound
And also in areas where infection is found,
Excision of highly vascular lesions,
And laparoscopic vaporisation of intestinal adhesions,
Also endoscopic surgery of lesions of the lung
And all operations in the very young.
In oncological surgery where the vessels are sealed
And the haemostasis makes the pathology better revealed.
Operations on patients with a tendency to bleed
Where haemostasis with monitoring is an absolute need.
The CO2 Laser is routinely used.
(And, if used correctly, is never abused)
In Gynecology for the treatment of uterine cervical lesions,
The laparoscopic treatment of endometriosis, ovarian cysts and adhesions.
For treating condylomata, pruritus vulvae and more,
And conditions where the Bovi was used before.
In General surgery, for mastectomy
And especially for lumpectomy.
Also in operations where severe bleeding is expected
And the electric cautery can be rejected.
In Orthopedics, for synovectomy and other procedures in the knee,
For osteomyelitis and tumors of the bone wherever they may be.
In Podiatry, for onychogryphosis and ingrowing nails,
Hallux valgus and plantar warts where other treatment usually fails.
In Oral Surgery, lesions of the mucosa and gingivectomy,
Vascular lesions and total or partial glossectomy.
In Thoracic Surgery, decortication and the thoracoscopic process
For treating emphysematous bullae, tumors of the lungs and hyperhidrosis.
In Oto-rhino-laryngology, treatment of lesions of the vocal chords, tonsillectomy,
Uvulo-palatoplasty and also turbinectomy.
In Plastic Surgery, the excision of burns
Was where it was first used because of concerns
Regarding blood loss and infection,
And the possibility of graft rejection.
This was followed by operations dealing
With the above and post operative pain and healing.
And it also found a place
In cosmetic surgery of the face.
With the dermatologists they share its application
In the treatment of skin lesions by vaporization.
In Pediatric Surgery it should always be used
And its rejection cannot be excused,
Because the prevention of blood loss is of vital concern,
And blood transfusions should not have a turn.
It should be used with endoscopes whenever the chance,
Because its application there is par excellence.
In Neurosurgery its use is quite unique,
Because it exploits the non-touch technique.
Operations can be performed with the EEG on site,
Because it is unaffected since it is merely a beam of light,
The avoidance of the tourniquet in Surgery of the Hand,
Is an advantage which beats the band.
It is used for surgery of the eyelids by the Ophthalmologists,
And of the scrotum and penis by the Urologists.
But it could be used in the bladder too,
By distending it with CO2.
In Cardiac surgery it plays a vital part
In revascularization of the muscle of the heart.
In Proctology, the ease with which hemorrhoids are dealt,
Reduces hospitalization because pain is not felt.
This also applies to surgery for any anar lesion,
Post operative comfort being the reason.
The laser has revolutionized Pilo –nidal sinus excision
‘Cause the wound can be closed since sterilization accompanies incision
Now, for the sake of completion, it should be made known,
That, in LLLT it’s application has been shown.
So, finally I wish to state without fear of contradiction,
That the CO2 laser in surgery has no restriction.

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