Glow Mediclinic

Walking on the fun side of skin rejuvenation



Mae Lary, MD







met Mae Lary in the park one late summer afternoon as she walked her Great Dane, Optimus. He kept in close step with her, dwarfing her petite frame and attracting my dog's attention.

After a brief meet-and-greet, I learned that Dr. Lary was a career oncologist until she took over an internal medicine practice in Bellingham. Then she surprised me with her new venture.

"My business partner is a family medicine physician with PeaceHealth. We're both interested in skin rejuvenation and anti-aging treatments. So we opened Glow Mediclinic, an aesthetic wellness center on 12th Street in Fairhaven, across from Haggens.

"Skin rejuvenation is an amazing field," she continued. "Unfortunately, some of the best outcomes result from procedures that are also the most invasive. You need several weeks to

heal from a face lift or an ablative laser peel. Busy people don't have the time or inclination to deal with all that."

Wow. It just so happened that I was doing research for an article on anti-aging technology.

"With Glow, we wanted to offer something more suited to active, busy lifestyles. We spent a lot of time looking for a technology that could meet our three requirements: 1) it had to be medically safe and non-invasive, 2) it had to deliver superior results that still looked natural, and 3) it couldn't involve much downtime."

Wow again. Did they find what they were looking for?

"We contacted Sciton," Dr. Lary said, "a highly regarded aesthetic laser supplier. They recently developed what they called the Halo Fractional Laser and Forever Young Broad Brand Light (BBL). Halo and BBL were really impressive

technologies. Both were new on the market, well tested, safe, and showed remarkable results with little to no downtime."

As Dr. Lary and I continued talking, our dogs were getting antsy. She suggested we resume our conversation at the clinic, sans hounds. I agreed and called to schedule one of Glow's free consultations.

A week later I was relaxing in Glow Mediclinic's tasteful reception room. Awash in subtle hues of white, blue-gray and mint, it was both inviting and airy. The reception desk was part furniture, part art piece. The elegant refreshment bar offered a choice of brewed teas, coffees and of course, filtered water.



Glow's reception area is inviting and airy.

Dr. Lary's business partner, Dr. Kelly Evans, stepped out of her office and greeted me warmly. I complimented her on her skin and the lovely soft laugh lines extending from the corners of her eyes.

"Some people get extreme with laser, Botox and fillers," she said. "At Glow we use them to help people look fresh, not fake." She showed me several before-and-after Halo treatment images including those of herself. Impressive.

We talked business, skin, and technology.

Dr. Evans was patient with my endless
questions and took me on a tour of the facility.

"We're the only aesthetic clinic north of Seattle

with a Halo," she said. "So far there are just three of them in the state."

Still, I couldn't help but wonder why these two MD's moved from their career specialties into the cosmetic arena. It seemed like a stretch.

"You and Dr. Lary are both respected veterans in your fields," I said. "So how do you go from family medicine, oncology, and internal medicine into skin rejuvenation?"

Dr. Evans smiled easily. "Don't get me wrong," she said. "We both love our practices and we still work in them part-time. We just wanted to add something less serious. We wanted to walk in the fun zone."

The fun zone got closer when they hired Susan Henderson as master aesthetician-cum-office manager. "I've run businesses in the past and I'm a licensed massage therapist as well as a master aesthetician," she said. "This is my perfect job."



Susan Henderson.

A self-described computer geek, Susan is now the full-time face of Glow. She assists the doctors with Halo and BBL treatments, schedules clients, maintains Glow's website and social media, and produces print and online materials. This is all in addition to makeup consultations & applications, facials, dermaplaning, and chemical peels.



Drop by for a visit anytime!

"Working at Glow combines everything I love," she said.

The Glow team hosted their grand opening on September 25th, 2015, followed by their Glitter and Glow Holiday Party on December 11th. Future seasonal events and specials are already in the works as well as an online expansion into education and self-care.

"We're developing a series of short educational videos to answer questions, demonstrate the procedures we do, and offer skin care and wellness guidance," explained Dr. Evans. "They'll be uploaded to our Glow YouTube channel and also available on the website. We're big on education."

The two MDs made sure to partner with local spas such as the Chrysalis. Dr. Evan's explained this approach. "We believe in supporting local businesses. Bellingham is a special place and we want to invest our energies into the local

economy, especially here in Fairhaven where we live and work. We also donate to pediatric cancer research. An important part of Glow's mission is to give back."

As no-nonsense professionals, the women of Glow make an imposing team. But they're also warm, friendly, genuine, and yes – fun. I enjoy hanging at the office. When I see Dr. Lary, we often talk dogs. (Optimus is popular with the Glow crew.) Dr. Evans and I share cute animal videos. Susan gives me advice on Bellingham's social scene.

After working with these women for a few months, I had only one question left to ask. "Now that Glow has been open for a while, are you happy you did this? Are you walking in the fun zone yet?"

Dr. Evans broke into her trademark smile. "Yes we are! Our events, our specials, our partnerships, the relationships with our clients, we enjoy all of it. Glow is definitely fun."

"We don't take our roles or services lightly," added Dr. Lary, "but we do get a lot of pleasure seeing people happy with their results. We truly enjoy being here."

"This business is well named," Susan said. "It's not just our clients that glow when they leave here. We do too. We're all glowing together!"

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Members of the Glow Ambassador Club share the Glow experience with their friends.