CLAIMS

1. A system comprising:

an applicator comprising

an electrode assembly comprising

a substrate, and

a needle array comprising a plurality of needles, the needle array extending from the substrate, the plurality of needles arranged in a pattern; and

a handpiece coupled to the electrode assembly; and

a control system in electrical communication with the plurality of needles;

wherein the control system is configured to detect a location of an enlarged sebaceous gland in response to an impedance measured using two or more needles of the plurality of needles, wherein the control system is configured to energize one or more of the plurality of needles to treat the enlarged sebaceous gland, wherein normally sized sebaceous glands are spared from targeted energy exposure.

2. The system of claim 1 further comprising a radiofrequency (RF) power amplifier in electrical communication with the plurality of needles, wherein the RF power amplifier generates one or more RF signals to energize the one or more of the plurality of needles.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the pattern comprises hexagonal clusters of needles wherein at least one needle is disposed within each such cluster.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the enlarged sebaceous gland has diameter greater than 50 μm.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein to detect a location of an enlarged sebaceous gland, the control system is further configured to:

send a low power pulse through each of the plurality of needles;

collect impedance data relative to each of the plurality of needles; and

determine which of the plurality of needles is near the enlarged sebaceous gland based on the collected impedance data.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein the low power pulse is a series of low power pulses that are iteratively sent until the collected impedance data shows contrast indicating a presence or absence of enlarged sebaceous glands.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein to energize one or more of the plurality of needles, the control system is further configured to send energy through a needle of the plurality of needles located near the enlarged sebaceous gland.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein one or more needles comprise liquid delivery ports and a channel to receive a solution.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the solution is a conductive solution.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the control system is further configured to address the one or more needles of the plurality of needles according to an energizing scheme such as a multiplexing sequence.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein detecting a location of an enlarged sebaceous gland further comprises performing an impedance mapping relative to treatment area.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein detecting a location of an enlarged sebaceous gland further comprises identifying the enlarged sebaceous gland in response to one or more impedance measurements obtained during the impedance mapping.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein detecting a location of an enlarged sebaceous gland further comprises measuring a difference in impedance between two adjacent needles spanning the sebaceous gland.

14. The system of claim 1, wherein the control system is further configured to perform a diagnostic impedance measurement relative to a target area.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein the control system is further configured to exclude high and/or low impedance values from the diagnostic impedance measurement.

16. A system comprising

an applicator comprising

an electrode assembly comprising

a substrate, and

a needle array comprising a plurality of needles, the needle array extending from the substrate, the plurality of needles arranged in a pattern; and

a handpiece coupled to the electrode assembly; and

a control system in electrical communication with the plurality of needles, wherein the control system is configured to detect a location of a tissue target, wherein the control system is configured to energize one or more of the plurality of needles to cosmetically treat the one or more portions of the tissue target, wherein normally sized sebaceous glands are spared from targeted energy exposure.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein tissue target is selected from a group consisting of hair follicle; sweat gland, vascular lesion, blood vessel, and sebaceous glands.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein to detect a location of a tissue target, the control system is further configured to:

send a low power pulse through each of the plurality of needles;

collect impedance data relative to each of the plurality of needles; and

determine which of the plurality of needles is near the tissue target based on the collected impedance data.

19. The system of claim 16, wherein to detect a location of a tissue target, the control system is further configured to: measure a difference in impedance between two adjacent needles spanning the tissue target.