



PATIENT INFORMATION

UVB TREATMENT



UVB therapy is a treatment in which the skin is exposed to special wavelengths of ultra violet light. These are produced by lamps positioned in a cabinet in which the patient stands. UVB is mainly used in the treatment of psoriasis but can be used for some other skin conditions. It has been safely used during pregnancy.

To start with, the skin is exposed for just a few seconds but the amount of UVB is gradually increased with each treatment. Generally the treatment is given 3 times a week for about 6 -8 weeks but some patients respond in a shorter time and some require longer treatment. Please note 1st appointment may take 30 minutes.

Practical points:

1. Do not use any skin treatment on mornings of treatment. Avoid using perfumed substances or aftershave lotion on the skin before your treatment as these can make the skin more sensitive to the light.
2. You will be asked about any medication that you may be taking before you start treatment. If you start taking any tablets or there are any changes to your tablet treatment during your UVB course, please
3. During your course of treatment, you should not sunbathe or use a sunbed. During sunny weather, a sun block should be used on exposed sites that are on the face, neck and hands. You should also take care gardening, working outdoors or spending long periods outside, especially on the day of your treatment. Protective clothing such as long sleeves and a wide brimmed hat are recommended.
4. You will be given special goggles to wear to protect the eyes when you are in the cabinet. These must not be removed during treatment.
5. Male patients must wear dark underwear / black socks during treatment to protect the genitalia.

Side effects:

Side effects may occur occasionally. These are mainly:

- a. A sunburn like reaction. This particularly affects those with a fair complexion. If this happens, you may be given some cream to use and your next treatment may be omitted.
- b. Skin dryness and itching - this is easily improved by using moisturising creams.

For treatment to be effective, it is important that you attend regularly. If you cannot attend, please inform the staff. If you miss 2 appointments without informing us, your treatment will be cancelled and you will be referred back to the Consultant Dermatologist.

If you have any problems following treatment, please contact the nursing staff on:-

Alexandra Hospital
Tel: 01527 503030
Ext: 44518

Worcester Royal Hospital
01905 760275

An answerphone is available so please leave a message giving your name and telephone number and someone will get back to you.

If your symptoms or condition worsens, or if you are concerned about anything, please call your GP, 111, or 999.

Patient Experience

We know that being admitted to hospital can be a difficult and unsettling time for you and your loved ones. If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak with a member of staff on the ward or in the relevant department who will do their best to answer your questions and reassure you.

Feedback

Feedback is really important and useful to us – it can tell us where we are working well and where improvements can be made. There are lots of ways you can share your experience with us including completing our Friends and Family Test – cards are available and can be posted on all wards, departments and clinics at our hospitals. We value your comments and feedback and thank you for taking the time to share this with us.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

If you have any concerns or questions about your care, we advise you to talk with the nurse in charge or the department manager in the first instance as they are best placed to answer any questions or resolve concerns quickly. If the relevant member of staff is unable to help resolve your concern, you can contact the PALS Team. We offer informal help, advice or support about any aspect of hospital services & experiences.

Our PALS team will liaise with the various departments in our hospitals on your behalf, if you feel unable to do so, to resolve your problems and where appropriate refer to outside help.

If you are still unhappy you can contact the Complaints Department, who can investigate your concerns. You can make a complaint orally, electronically or in writing and we can advise and guide you through the complaints procedure.

How to contact PALS:

Telephone Patient Services: 0300 123 1732 or via email at: wah-tr.PET@nhs.net

Opening times:

The PALS telephone lines are open Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 4.30pm and Friday: 8.30am to 4.00pm. Please be aware that a voicemail service is in use at busy times, but messages will be returned as quickly as possible.

If you are unable to understand this leaflet, please communicate with a member of staff.