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**5-FluorouracilCream (5-FU) Directions and Information**

Professional Dermatology Care, PC

**Information:**

5-FU cream is a topical form of chemotherapy to treat superficial cancerous and precancerous cells of the skin. The cream binds to the abnormal cells and stops growth while destroying the existing abnormal cells. Destroying these “bad” cells may cause a reaction. These reactions include but are not limited to redness, dryness, burning, pain, blisters, swelling and erosion (loss of the upper layer of skin). Treated areas may be unsightly during and after therapy. The cream will not damage “good” cells; therefore no reaction will be seen on healthy skin. The reaction may look patchy. Exposure to sunlight or other forms of ultraviolet radiation during treatment cannot only increase the chance of getting a sunburn but also increase the intensity of your reaction. Please avoid the sun as much as possible and keep applying sunscreen during treatment.

**Directions:**

5-FU cream is to be used every night before bed for 14 nights if you have a diagnosis of Actinic Keratoses or for 21-28 nights if you have a diagnosis of superficial BCC or SCC in situ:

* Wash the affected area with soap and water and let dry
* Apply a thin layer of the cream over the affected area (like a lotion)
* Make sure you wash your hands after applying the cream
* In the morning, wash the treated area with soap and water
* Apply moisturizer and sunscreen! Yes, please moisturize throughout the treatment
* Repeat for the appropriate number of nights

After your recommended number of nights of treatment, to heal the reactive lesions apply Vaseline for at least 14 days. Keep those lesions greasy!

**Follow up:**

Do not forget to make your follow up appointment if needed. Your follow up appointment should be about 1 month after starting the treatment process – unless otherwise specified. Please feel free to take pictures during your reaction stage and post Vaseline treatment bring them with you- Do not email them to us! If you have any questions or concerns please call 703-860-1818