

Radiotherapy to the skin for Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC) or Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC)

Cancer Services

Information for patients

Produced: Jan 2026

Review: Jan 2029

Leaflet number: 637 Version: 7

Radiotherapy Treatment

The treatment area will be outlined on your skin using a marker; these marks will be used everyday to line the machine up for your treatment. It is important that after Day 1 of treatment you don't wash these marks off until your course of treatment has finished. Scrubbing at the marks will also make your skin sore.

Throughout radiotherapy the treatment area is exposed to radiation which has a similar effect to sun exposure. The radiotherapy treatment affects only a small area of skin, and will not make you feel unwell. However you can feel tired as the treatment progresses.

You will be asked for permission to take a photograph of the area being treated. This is for future reference, so that the radiographers will be able to see where you were treated.

Skin Care

As the treatment progresses, your skin may change colour and become drier. Over time, it may become moist and a scab will form. If this happens the scab should be left in place. The radiographers may choose to remove the scab but this should not be done at home. Specialised creams can be given if needed.

Avoid any perfumes and scented soaps to the treatment area. Keep the water warm when washing, but not hot. If the treated area is close to your hair line or on your scalp, avoid using a hair dryer.

**Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice**

Visit www.uhleicester.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact uhl-tr.informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net

Radiotherapy can cause hair loss to the area undergoing treatment.

Ensure the treatment area is moisturised using a simple moisturizer such as: E45 or Aveeno. All creams must be thoroughly rubbed in before radiotherapy. If the skin begins to break down, do not put moisturizer on the open wound.

During treatment

- Avoid make-up in the area being treated.
- Avoid swimming for the duration of treatment and thereafter until the skin is healed.
- Avoid sun exposure to the treatment area even when the skin is healed.

After treatment

After treatment has finished, your skin may appear sore and inflamed. The reaction can worsen for a few weeks after your last treatment but will settle after that. Eventually the area will dry up and form a scab; which will come away. This can happen several times, leaving healed skin underneath.

Once your skin has healed always wear sun cream SPF 50 as the skin will be very sensitive. Hats can also be worn to protect any treatment areas on the head or face.

Please contact radiotherapy if there are any concerns about a worsening skin reaction in the first few weeks after treatment.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔
على هذه المعلومات بلغة أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل
જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

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