

Medical tattooing (micropigmentation) aftercare

Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Information for Patients

Last reviewed: October 2023

Next review: October 2026

Leaflet number: 869 Version: 4

Important information for aftercare

It is important that you follow these guidelines to get the best possible result from your micropigmentation treatment. The area will need to be completely healed before you can have any more treatment.

- Leave the cling film in place for 5 to 6 hours, then gently remove.
- Keep the area dry for 60 to 72 hours. Avoid direct jets from the shower, or soaking in the bath. This will cause the pigment to be rejected. Gently pat the area dry, do not rub.
- After washing your hands apply a **thin** layer of the ointment provided. This will help to heal the area with the least scabbing. Carry on doing this for 4 to 7 days. Wash your hands afterwards.
- Do not use any other products on the treated area, for example cosmetics, soaps and cleansers until the area has completely healed. This takes between 5 to 10 days.
- It is normal for you to have some swelling around the treated area for a couple of days, and light crusting of the tattoo. It is important that you do not pick at these scabs as this will result in the colour being removed.

Frequently asked questions

Can I go swimming?

Until the area has fully healed, we advise not to go into chlorinated water (pool, spa, jacuzzi).

Can I go out in the sun?

Your treated area should not be exposed to direct sunlight until fully healed. Once this has happened you may go out in the sun. We advise a waterproof sunblock, to stop sunburn, fading and colour changes.

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

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

When can I use my normal products, for example bubble bath, moisturisers, make-up etc?

Once the area has fully healed, usually after 10 days, you may go back to your normal skin routine.

When should I come back to the clinic?

Follow up sessions may be needed to get good results. A follow up session will be booked for you. Usually 2 to 3 sessions will be enough. Over time (years) the area may fade and a top up will be needed. You will need to be referred back to the clinic by your GP:

Micropigmentation Services, Plastic Surgery Department - Leicester Royal Infirmary.

How will I know if I have an infection?

Infection is very rare. Colours will at first appear very intense straight after the session. You may have a few spots of blood, clear fluid and some swelling. If the treated area continues to stay red and swollen causing excessive heat and pain then it is advisable to contact your GP or the clinic for advice.

Please note:

The tattooed area may show up on an MRI / CT scan if you ever need one, and you may feel a slight tingling feeling. Please tell your radiologist so that they can be aware of this.

Remember you will have to go through 3 phases: heal, peel and fade.

If you are thinking about laser or any other skin procedures such as chemical peels to the treated area, please be aware that if you had eyebrow or lip liner treatments these can alter their position.

Contact details

If you have any problems or more questions please contact us at the clinic on 0116 258 5328.

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।

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk