

Overview

This standard is about the initial and on-going assessment and phototherapeutic / photochemotherapy treatment of individuals, both adults and children, with dermatological conditions such as Psoriasis, Eczema, Polymorphic Light Eruption (PLE), Mycosis Fungoides (MF), and Auto-immune conditions. Ultraviolet phototherapy treatment may take place within dermatology units, and may be found within teaching and district general hospitals. It may also apply to phototherapy units in primary care health centres that are under the guidance of a local secondary care dermatology department. It involves both short and long-term management of the condition and may also involve support for individuals where home phototherapy is administered. You will work within the limits of your personal level of competence, authority, expertise and training in relation to provision of treatment.

The range of conditions to be treated will vary from centre to centre and practitioner's knowledge of such conditions will be a pre-requisite.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies

SFHCHS113

Manage dermatological conditions with ultraviolet phototherapy

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 apply standard precautions for infection control and other relevant health and safety measures
- P2 obtain, or review all existing information including individual history, previous test results, referral
- P3 ask the individual pertinent questions to clarify any symptoms they describe and the possible cause of such symptoms
- P4 explain the process, procedure, potential adverse effects and need for adherence to phototherapy treatment to the individual and confirm their understanding
- P5 respond to the concerns and perceptions of individuals and carers regarding the use and application of treatments
- P6 evaluate the individual condition prior to treatment and conduct safe and effective Minimal Erythral dose (MED)/Minimal Phototoxic Dose (MPD) testing in conformance with required protocols
- P7 check whether any regular treatments have been missed and calculate dosage to be applied
- P8 identify potential contra-indications to phototherapy treatment and ensure individual is aware of possible adverse effects
- P9 refer individual for specialist review where contra-indications are identified
- P10 check correct calibration of equipment has been conducted prior to individual use and minimise the risk of adverse effects
- P11 position the individual correctly in the phototherapy unit and ensure that goggles are positioned for individual protection
- P12 administer safe and effective phototherapy treatment in conformance with relevant protocols, including duration of treatment and machine close down
- P13 ensure the individual applies correct emollient to all body areas before leaving
- P14 inform the individual of next actions, including further application of emollients and follow up appointments and confirm their understanding
- P15 maintain accurate records of treatment including reaction achieved and any factors that may affect future treatment plans

SFHCHS113

Manage dermatological conditions with ultraviolet phototherapy

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the function, adverse effects, contra-indications and interaction problems associated with commonly prescribed medication
- K2 procedures and protocols associated with treatment by phototherapy
- K3 the factors that determine when additional or alternative medications would be required and prescribed
- K4 the anatomy and physiology of the skin
- K5 the principles of photobiology and the effects of ultraviolet light on the skin
- K6 the common skin diseases that are responsive to UV therapies
- K7 the differences between broadband, UVB, narrowband UVB and PUVA
- K8 the different types of psoralens used in PUVA, their systemic effects and their effects on the skin
- K9 the common potential photo sensitisers and common drugs that interact with psoralens
- K10 a basic awareness of the principles of metering and dosimetry
- K11 the basic principles of health and safety in relation to equipment and environmental factors associated with phototherapy
- K12 photo responsive skin diseases and their management with UV therapies
- K13 the sources of support, advice and information which may prove helpful to individuals
- K14 the criteria for referral of individuals for additional assessment or change of medication
- K15 the pathophysiology of common dermatological conditions
- K16 the mechanics of transmission of infection and the implications of infection for individuals, their families and carers
- K17 the systemic conditions that may initially present as a dermatological condition
- K18 statutory requirements relating to prescription
- K19 methods to minimise potential adverse effects of phototherapy
- K20 your own role, responsibilities, limitations, competence and level of authority in relation to providing phototherapeutic treatment

SFHCHS113

Manage dermatological conditions with ultraviolet phototherapy

Additional Information

External links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

SFHCHS113

Manage dermatological conditions with ultraviolet phototherapy

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version number	1
Date approved	June 2010
Indicative review date	June 2012
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	CHS113
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Medicine and Dentistry; Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Health Professionals; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Clinical Health Skills
Key words	Phototherapy, UVB, PUVA, dermatology, dermatological