CLINICAL POLICY
Phototherapy – EXCIMER Laser Care of the Patient

A. **EFFECTIVE DATE:**
   April 9, 2021

B. **PURPOSE:**
   To define the parameters of care for the patient receiving laser phototherapy treatment.

C. **POLICY:**
   1. All patients who are candidates must be evaluated by a Dermatology Practitioner prior to treatment. The LIP will provide written orders for treatment. They will periodically assess the patient for tolerance and effectiveness of treatment.
   
   2. Signage indicating laser in use will be placed in areas where lasers are being used.
   
   3. RN will assess the patient’s skin and response to phototherapy laser prior to all treatments.
   
   4. Appropriate eyewear for laser therapy will be provided for patient, staff, and any other individual present in active laser room.

D. **SCOPE:**
   CT Psoriasis Center

E. **DEFINITIONS:**
   None

F. **MATERIAL(S) NEEDED:**
   Excimer laser, mineral oil

G. **PROCEDURE:**
   1. Identify the patient with two patient identifiers.
   
   2. Review the laser treatment order. Confirm the patient has removed all make-up and lotions. If not, have them remove with mild cleanser; no alcohol to treatment area.
   
   3. Review and confirm with the patient the area to be treated. Tell the patient to inform the clinician if they experience any untoward effects during treatment.
4. Prior to first treatment and periodically thereafter, obtain photographs:
   a. Take photo of patient’s identification label.
   b. Take photo(s) of area(s) to be treated. Photographs are to be transferred to digital database as soon as appropriate.

5. Apply thin layer of mineral oil to treatment area. Inform the patient that the mineral oil may stain clothing and assist them in protecting clothing as needed. (Patients receiving treatment to their scalp may refuse mineral oil to their scalp and still receive treatment)

6. Put protective eyewear on patient, operator, and anyone else in the room.

7. Administer treatment as ordered per provider’s order and manufacturer guidelines. Assess patient during treatment for tolerance to procedure and skin response.

**Post-Treatment:**

1. Post-treatment, have patient remove mineral oil from skin.

2. Review with the patient post treatment instructions and education.


**During Follow-Up Treatment prior to the start of the treatment:**

1. Review with patient the outcome of their last treatment.

2. Assess for any untoward effects: itching, burning, blistering, scabbing, crusting, erythema; if present, refer to the Provider for assessment and possible change of orders.

3. If patient reports no complications or untoward side effects, continue treatment per Provider order and manufacturers protocols.

4. If no untoward effects are noted, proceed to Steps 1 through 7 as listed above.

**Patient Education and Post-Treatment Instructions:**

1. Post-treatment expected skin responses:
   Instruct the patient a slight-to-moderate skin reaction is expected that includes slight pinkness to hot pink of the treated area and/or some warmth or sensitivity for short time.

2. Post-treatment instructions:
   a. Instruct patient to report to the Provider any severe reaction(s) such as pain or blistering in the area tread.
   b. Patient to continue topical medications and moisturizers as prescribed by LIP between treatments.

**H. ATTACHMENTS:**

None
I. REFERENCES:

J. SEARCH WORDS:
None

K. ENFORCEMENT:
Violations of this policy or associated procedures may result in appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with University By-Laws, General Rules of Conduct for All University Employees, applicable collective bargaining agreements, the University of Connecticut Student Code, other applicable University Policies, or as outlined in any procedures document related to this policy.

L. STAKEHOLDER APPROVALS:
On File

I. COMMITTEE APPROVALS:
None

J. FINAL APPROVAL:

1. Andrew Agwunobi (Signed) 04/16/2021
   Andrew Agwunobi, MD, MBA
   UConn Health Chief Executive Officer

2. Anne Horbatuck (Signed) 04/16/2021
   Anne D. Horbatuck, RN, BSN, MBA
   Clinical Policy Committee Co-Chair

3. Scott Allen (Signed) 04/13/2021
   Scott Allen, MD
   Clinical Policy Committee Co-Chair

4. Caryl Ryan (Signed) 04/13/2021
   Caryl Ryan, MS, BSN, RN
   VP Quality and Patient Service & Chief Nursing Officer

K. REVISION HISTORY:
Date Issued: 03/15
Date Reviewed:
Date Revised: 04/21