

5-Fluorouracil (Fluoroplex or Efudex)

This medication represents a great step forward in the treatment of pre-malignant skin conditions. For the first time, we can selectively destroy skin cells which are growing abnormally.

How it works:

The chemical 5-Fluorouracil, when applied to the skin's surface, is absorbed by cells which are growing and dividing abnormally. Each and every such cell is blocked from further growth and development. The result is selective cell death of abnormal cells. Normal cells do not take the chemical into their systems, so they are unaffected by your treatment.

What to expect:

As treatment progresses, some areas of your skin will turn pink and later red. Remember that normal cells will not change in any way. This includes moles, freckles and other benign growths.

Redness is to be expected and it does not indicate any allergy, nor does it mean the medication is too strong. It merely indicates the presence of abnormal cells. You may see this reaction even in some areas that were not thought to be involved.

Your skin will not scar from the treatment, although it may become quite red and you may even see some crusting. After your treatment is complete, your skin will be smoother and look better.

Precautions:

Continue treatment unless you have discomfort for an hour or more after you apply the medication; if the area becomes raw; or if the overall cosmetic appearance is truly distressing to you. If any of these conditions occur, stop your use of the medication and call your Family Dermatology office for advice.

Avoid sun exposure while using this medication, as it may increase your reaction.

During treatment, cleanse your face with soap and water as you normally would. You can shave, but do not use aftershave lotion, which could irritate the skin. You can apply makeup with no restrictions.

How to apply:

Unless your dermatologist has advised you otherwise, use your fingertip to apply the medication to your entire face, except for the following areas:

- Upper lip
- Chin
- Around the eyes
- In the folds at the base of the nose
- Neck

Rub the medication in just enough to make it disappear. Wash your hands after applying.

If you are applying the medication in the evening, allow time for sufficient drying before bedtime. This will prevent the medication from spreading to areas that do not require treatment.

MEDICAL, SURGICAL AND
COSMETIC SPECIALISTS

Paula Nelson, M.D.
Felicity Warren, M.D.
Mary Ellen Luchetti, M.D.
Yvette George, M.D.
Cynthia A. Abbott, M.D.
George D. Miller, M.D.
John F. O'Brien, M.D.
Shelly M. Hall, M.D.
W. Harvey Cabaniss, Jr., M.D.
Keith R. Harris, M.D., M.P.H.
Wakitha Griffin, M.D.
James A. Rooney, M.D.

629 Beaver Ruin Road
Suite B
Lilburn, Georgia 30047
770-921-4300

2550 Windy Hill Road
Suite 103
Marietta, Georgia 30067
770-952-0050

970 Joe Frank Harris Parkway
Suite 330
Cartersville, Georgia 30120
770-382-2230

302 West 6th Street
Rome, Georgia 30165
706-291-0505

1150 Hammond Drive
Suite A-1120
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
770-392-1117

1010 Prince Avenue
Suite 186
Athens, Georgia 30606
706-549-7108

Fax 770-381-6451
www.myfamilyderm.com