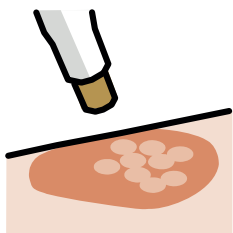


# Having skin laser treatment

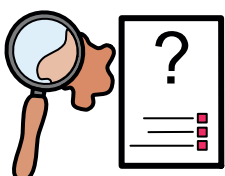
Great Ormond Street  
Hospital for Children  
NHS Foundation Trust



Laser treatment is the best way to treat a birthmark called a port wine stain. It uses a narrow beam of light to make the port wine stain less red.



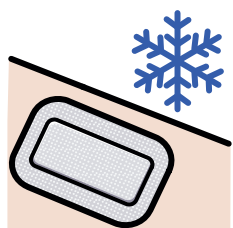
Each time the laser beam touches the skin, it treats a very small area. We call this a laser 'dot'. Children have lots of 'dots' in one session.



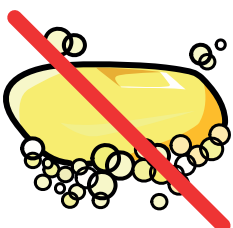
First we do a 'test patch'. This is a few dots on your birthmark and a few on normal skin.



We put some cream on your skin first. This makes it numb.



After the dots, we put a cold dressing on the area to make it comfortable.



You can have a shower or bath but do not use soap.

# Having skin laser treatment

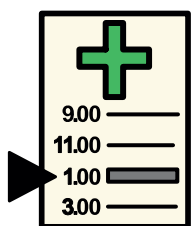
Great Ormond Street  
Hospital for Children  
NHS Foundation Trust



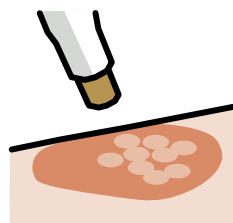
You will also need to wear strong sun cream all year round.



You will not be able to go swimming for three weeks after treatment.



After a few months, you will need to come back to hospital for a check up.  
If the doctors think the laser treatment has worked,  
they will book another laser appointment for you.



You will have more dots at the next treatment.  
You will need to look after your skin carefully after each treatment.



Please ask us if you have any questions.