



## **Dr. McGoey's Efudex (5 Fluorouracil) Handout**

Apply Efudex two times daily to \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.

### How to use Efudex cream (5 fluorouracil):

Use Efudex cream as directed by Dr. McGoey. Check the label on the medicine for exact dosing instructions.

Use a nonmetallic applicator or wear rubber gloves while applying Efudex cream. If not using gloves, ensure that hands are thoroughly washed after applying to prevent spread of the medication to the eyes or other areas of the body.

Gently wash the area where you will apply Efudex cream. Rinse well, pat dry with a towel, and wait 10 minutes before applying Efudex cream. Apply enough of Efudex cream to cover the affected area with a thin layer. Wash your hands immediately after applying Efudex cream, unless they are part of the treated area.

Do not bandage or cover the treated area, unless directed to do so by Dr. McGoey. Efudex cream is for external use only. Do not get it in your eyes, nose, mouth, or genital area. If you get it in your eyes, rinse with a generous amount of cool water right away and contact our office. If you miss a dose of Efudex cream, use it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose. Go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not use 2 doses at once.

Expect to have redness, crusting, itching and stinging at the site of application. Please discontinue use and call the office if you develop open sores, ulceration, or pain. If you find that your skin is dry and uncomfortable, you can use vaseline (petroleum jelly) to help with the discomfort

### Possible side effects of efudex cream:

All medicines may cause side effects, but many people have no, or minor, side effects. Check with your doctor if any of these most COMMON side effects persist or become bothersome:

Burning, crusting, redness, pain, soreness, inflammation, or irritation of the skin.

Seek medical attention right away if any of these SEVERE side effects occur:  
Severe allergic reactions (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue); bloody diarrhea; change in skin color; chills; fever; scarring or sores on the treated area; severe or persistent burning, crusting, redness, pain, soreness, inflammation, or irritation of the skin; severe stomach pain; vomiting.

Ask Dr. McGoey if you have any questions you may have about how to use Efudex cream.



Important safety information:

Complete healing of the lesions may not occur for 1 to 2 months after you stop using the cream. The treated areas may be unattractive during therapy and for several weeks after treatment has stopped.

Efudex cream may cause you to become sunburned more easily. Use a sunscreen, a hat or wear protective clothing if you must be outside for more than a short time.

Do not use other medicines or products on the treated area without first checking with Dr. McGoey. Do not use Efudex cream for future skin problems without first checking with Dr. McGoey.

Lab tests, including biopsies, may be performed while you use Efudex cream. These tests may be used to monitor your condition or check for side effects. Be sure to keep all doctor and lab appointments.

**PREGNANCY and BREAST-FEEDING:** Do not use Efudex cream if you are pregnant. It may cause harm to the fetus. Avoid becoming pregnant while you are taking it. If you think you may be pregnant, contact your doctor right away. It is not known if this medicine is found in breast milk. Do not breast-feed while taking Efudex cream.

Keep Efudex cream away from children and pets.