

**Commissioning statement on the prescribing of
 camouflage products at NHS Leeds CCG**

Treatment	Camouflage products
For the treatment of	Scars or other disfiguring skin conditions.
Commissioning position	<p>Camouflage products should only be initiated by a healthcare professional that specialises in skin colour matching and appropriate application techniques.</p> <p>Camouflage treatments are intended to change aspects of a person's appearance. There is insufficient evidence to support camouflage products as an appropriate treatment for psychological distress resulting in low self-esteem or depression.</p>
Prescribing and monitoring	<p>It is recommended that prescribing of camouflage creams and powders on the NHS should only be considered if a patient meets one of the set criteria stated below. Products can be prescribed on a repeat prescription but to ensure these are reviewed at the appropriate intervals and not routinely issued each month.</p> <p>Camouflage products may be prescribed for the following list of conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scars resulting from postoperative, accident, skin condition, skin disease, self-harm, act of violence, burns, acne and other chronic inflammatory conditions ▪ Chronic inflammatory conditions resulting in long term significant visible differences e.g. vitiligo ▪ Visible birth marks ▪ Visible hyperpigmentation ▪ Melasma • Tattoos which have occurred because of trauma, radiotherapy, or those inflicted as part of abuse/ at times of significant psychological distress.
Recommendations	<p>Camouflage products for facial sites should last for approx. 6-12 months and body sites approx. 3-6 months but this depends on the size which was being covered. The products expire after 12 months once opened so they would need re-prescribing at that point.</p> <p>(As recommended by the Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances, (ACBS)) Camouflage products that can be prescribed are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Covermark® creams and fixing powders ▪ Dermacolor® camouflage creams and fixing powders ▪ Keromask® masking creams and finishing powders

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Veil® cover creams and finishing powders <p>All cleansing creams, cleansing milks, cleansing lotions, foundations and all Dermablend® products are excluded and can be purchased on the high street/ cosmetic departments.</p>
Date effective from	April 2022
Policy to be reviewed by	April 2024
Background information	<p>Skin camouflage is best described as the application of highly pigmented creams that are designed to effectively mask skin discoloration and/or scarring. Skin camouflage products are matched to normal skin colour and are significantly different from ordinary cosmetics. When correctly applied, the products are water resistant unintentionally without the fear of washing off.</p>
Summary of evidence/rationale	<p>Camouflage creams and powders last between six months and three years, depending on the product, the area to be camouflaged and the frequency of use. A small amount of cream should cover a large area if applied correctly</p>
Contact for this policy	<p>Kim Mooring, Lead Technician for Medicines Economy and Effectiveness Medicine’s Optimisation Team NHS Leeds CCG</p>

References

- Drug Tariff http://www.ppa.org.uk/ppa/edt_intro.htm
- British National Formulary. <http://www.bnf.org/bnf/index.htm>
- The British Association of Skin Camouflage, <https://skin-camouflage.net/scwp/index.php/why-skin-camouflage/faqs/> accessed 06/01/22
- Skin Camouflage Patient Information Leaflet. British Association of Dermatologists, April 2020 <https://www.bad.org.uk/patient-information-leaflets/skin-camouflage> accessed 06/01/22
- Audrey McCartney, Superintendent Radiographer, Laser suite, Chapel Allerton Hospital
- Dr Urwin, Lead Laser Clinician, Chapel Allerton Hospital.
- Guy Harper, Service Coordinator, Skin Camouflage Service, Changing Faces based at Street Lane Medical Practice.