



## POSITION STATEMENT: PRESCRIBING OF MEDICAL CAMOUFLAGING (COVERING) CREAMS AND POWDERS

### Recommendation:

Medical camouflaging products must only be initiated by a healthcare professional that specialises in skin colour matching and appropriate application techniques. - **Rag status RED**

East Lancashire and BwD Clinical Commissioning Groups do not routinely commission cosmetic treatments.

Patients are able to purchase camouflage creams and powders on the high street, on-line and via local community pharmacies.

### Background

This document aims to outline the criteria by which camouflage creams and powders should be supplied at NHS expense.

Disfiguring marks such as scars, birthmarks and the depigmented patches in vitiligo can have a significant impact on a patient's health and wellbeing. Camouflage agents can be very effective in concealing disfiguring marks and reducing the associated impact in individual patients

### Availability of camouflage creams and powders

Camouflage creams and powders can be purchased on the high street, on-line and via local community pharmacies. The brands currently available are not expensive to buy when measured against how little product is required to cover a large area and expiry once opened.

Many camouflage creams and powders can not be prescribed on the NHS (Drug Tariff Part XVIII A).

### Camouflage creams and powder on the NHS.

East Lancashire and BwD Clinical Commissioning Group does not routinely commission cosmetic treatments. It is recommended that prescribing of camouflage creams and powders on the NHS should only be considered by a healthcare professional that specialises in skin colour matching and appropriate application techniques.

When a healthcare professional that specialises in skin colour matching and appropriate application techniques has identified exceptional need and the patient is unable to self-care, then the supply of the following products from secondary care may be arranged:

*(Note: all these products are **RED** Traffic Light and should not be prescribed in primary Care).*

*Covermark Classic Foundation, Keromask Finishing Powder, Covermark Finishing Powder, Keromask Masking Cream, Dermacolor Camouflage Cream, Veil Cover Cream, Dermacolor Fixing Powder, Veil Finishing Powder*

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. For patients who request supplies frequently, review application area and technique.

### References

1. Drug Tariff July 2016 [http://www.ppa.org.uk/ppa/edt\\_intro.htm](http://www.ppa.org.uk/ppa/edt_intro.htm)
2. British National Formulary June 2016. <http://www.bnf.org/bnf/index.htm>
3. The British Association of Skin Camouflage FAQs <http://www.skin-camouflage.net/index.php/faq.html>