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www.upmc.com/skinhealthcenter

### **About Laser Hair Removal:**

- Laser hair removal results in permanent reduction of unwanted hair.
- It requires multiple sessions at regularly spaced intervals.
- Each treatment will results in about a 20-30% reduction in hair density.
- Any part of the face or body can be treated
- Works best on dark (medium brown to black) and coarse hair.
- Light or grey hairs will **regrow**.

- Do not wax or tweeze the hairs for 3-4 weeks before
- Shave or trim the hair 1-2 days prior to your treatments. Alternatively, you can use a depilatory cream such as Nair or Sally Hansen to remove the hair.
- An average of 4-6 treatments AT 4-6 week intervals are necessary for maximum results.
- The number of treatments will vary with each individual. It is important to keep your treatments spaced at regular intervals. Too long a delay between treatments may result in a loss of results.

## **PRE Laser Hair Removal Instructions**

Please read the following information <u>well in advance</u> of your laser hair removal appointment. It will save you the frustration of having to reschedule your appointment.

#### Precautions BEFORE and AFTER laser hair removal:

- AVOID tanning or sun exposure, tanning beds, & self-tanners for 6-8 weeks prior to and after treatment.
- Tanned skin can blister or burn. Therefore, if you are tan, your appointment **WILL** be cancelled, and there will be a <u>cancellation fee</u> charged.
- Use a daily SPF 30 or greater sunblock, containing titanium dioxide or zinc oxide

# Expectations Following Laser Hair Removal:

- Temporary redness and mild swelling around the hair follicles
- The treated hairs will fall out or exfoliate in approximately 2 weeks.
- Blistering or scabbing rarely occurs. If this does occur, please apply petroleum jelly (Vaseline) or Aquaphor ointment to the area twice a day until it heals and <u>NOTIFY</u>us immediately.
- Occasionally, an acne-like eruption (folliculitis) can occur when treating the facial area. If this happens, let us know and we will call in prescriptions to help curtail the folliculitis flare.

#### Care of the treated area:

- Do not rub, scratch, or pick at the treated areas. Treat this area **gently** for a few days.
- If make-up is used, it must be applied and removed delicately.
- You may apply ice packs for 10-15 minutes per hour, while awake, during the first day if needed.