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## Xtrac (Strata) Consent Form <u>Vitiligo</u>

UVB (ultraviolet B light) is the most common form of phototherapy used to treat various skin diseases, including vitiligo. You will be exposed to this intense UVB light during each treatment session. This treatment is NOT A CURE, but can effectively improve your disease.

The excimer laser is a form of UVB phototherapy that emits a single wavelength of UVB light, which eliminates other harmful UV rays. Clinical studies have indicated that the XTRAC laser tends to be most successful in treating vitiligo in the face, neck and upper chest and least successful in the hands and fett. Repigmentation of effected areas will generally begin within 10 treatments and successful repigmentation can often be obtained in 30 treatments. Most patients receive 2-3 treatments per week. If full repigmentation occurs, the results may be permanent.

Each individual will respond to UVB light differently and the total number of treatments needed to repigment the skin will vary. *Not all patients will respond to UVB phototherapy.* 

The expected benefits of excimer laser phototherapy are:

- 1. Improvement of tissue pigmentation
- 2. Remission In many cases, phototherapy has resulted in repigmentation of the affected tissue. The duration of this remission varies with each patient. Maintenance therapy may be required.
- 3. Only the affected tissue is treated, leaving healthy skin unexposed to UV light.

Risks and side effects of excimer laser phototherapy:

- 1. The most common side effect of this therapy is UVB-induced sunburn or blistering. This may occur at any time during therapy. Certain drugs may also enhance the possibility of a sunburn-type reaction. Please let your doctor/nurse know of any medications that you are taking, or any that you start taking while undergoing therapy.
- 2. Increased pigmentation may occur, especially after blistering sunburn-type reactions.
- 3. It is possible with any form of UV light that an increased incidence of skin cancer may occur later in some patients, usually only after extended exposure to UV light.
- 4. UV treatments may cause dryness or itching.
- 5. UV treatments age the skin over time and may increase freckles and pigmentation of the skin.
- 6. Ultraviolet rays may damage the eyes and increase your risk of cataracts. This is preventable with protective eye goggles worn during treatment.

Should	you	have	any	questions	s cc	ncernin	g any	aspect	of	your	treatment	please	e call	770-	422-10	13,	ext:	1029	Brittan	y 01	1030	Ginger
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