

INFORMATION LEAFLETS FOR PARENTS / CARERS OF A CHILD

VISCOPASTE



Viscopaste

This information has been produced to explain what paste bandages are and how they are used as a treatment for Atopic Eczema.

The type most commonly used is called PB7 or Viscopaste. This bandage is covered in a thick white zinc paste.

The main benefit of this bandage is to:

- Moisturise the skin
- Save the skin from further damage from scratching
- Allow the skin to heal from previous scratching



These bandages are very useful on the arms and legs for areas of eczema, which have become thickened from scratching over a period of time.

They cool and soothe the skin and can help to break the cycle of itching and scratching. They are never used on chest or back.

If a topical steroid ointment/cream is used under the bandages it will be absorbed more efficiently.

This should be discussed with the dermatology team or nurse.

These bandages can be messy to apply. After the child has had their bath and dried themselves, an emollient should be applied, followed by the paste bandages. There is a special technique to putting them on which will be demonstrated by the dermatology nurse. A 'pleat' technique is used rather than wrapping them completely around the arm and/or leg.

This stops the bandage from tightening when it dries out and ensures the patient can fully move their arms or legs as usual especially over the wrists and elbows.

It is important not to use these bandages, if infection is present in the skin.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Dermatology department at 01 428 2532

