Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

Cavilon barrier film in the prevention and treatment of facial skin problems associated with use of PPE masks

What is the product?

3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film

How does it work?

Cavilon is a skin protectant, which acts as a transparent liquid barrier film to protect the skin. It dries quickly to form a breathable coating to protect damaged and intact skin from bodily fluids, adhesive trauma and friction. It is hypoallergenic, sterile, non-toxic and alcohol free.

Who is it for?

Cavilon is already regularly used for UHL patients in several formulations including as a barrier cream and as a barrier film.

Due to its ability to help protect against friction and shear forces, it can be recommended for use if you are at risk of, or have developed, skin problems associated with personal protective equipment such as FFP3 masks or fluid resistant surgical masks (FRSM) during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

It can be applied to intact or at risk skin, such as the skin that sits under the mask on the bridge of the nose and the upper cheeks.

How do I use it?

- Apply to affected or at risk skin sites before donning your PPE in readiness for your shift
- One application should last the whole shift
- Cavilon No Sting Barrier Film comes in 1ml and 3ml sachets and in a 28ml spray bottle. It can be prescribed or purchased over the counter or online
- Apply sparingly to the affected or at risk skin making sure that your skin is clean and dry beforehand and wipe off any excess Cavilon after application
- Allow the skin to dry for 30-60 seconds

- Wash hands thoroughly following application and avoid contact with the eyes
- If eye symptoms occur following contact, rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if possible and continue rinsing

What else do I need to know?

This product does not replace, but is used in addition to, other measures of good skin hygiene.
Follow the most up to date guidance for correct fitting of masks to the face.
Wearing PPE masks continuously over your nasal bridge for more than 6 hours without a break will increase the chance of skin problems. Ideally remove or change the mask every 2 hours, wipe off any sweat, allow to dry and let your skin rest for at least five minutes before reapplying your mask.
Cavilon barrier film will decrease -but not eliminate- the chances of skin damage due to PPE masks.
The product is designed to be durable and resist washing or rubbing off over the course of a shift

What's in it?

It does not contain any latex, parabens, fragrance, dyes or colour but does contain an acrylic polymer. If you have a proven acrylate allergy you should discuss with your dermatologist or Occupational Health before using Cavilon barrier film.

The ingredients are:
Water (Aqua), Diisooctyl Adipate, Acrylate Terpolymer, Cocos Nucifera (Coconut) Oil, PPG-15 Stearyl Ether, Glycerin, Isopropyl Palmitate, White Mineral Oil (Paraffinum Liquidum), Trimethylsiloxysilicate, Paraffin, Dimethicone, Phenoxyethanol, Benzoic Acid, Dehydroacetic Acid, Magnesium Sulfate.