

Sunscreen on Prescription – Actinic prurigo



Did you know you, if you are affected by actinic prurigo you can get sunscreen on prescription?

Recent changes to the UK drug tariff mean that certain conditions, including actinic prurigo are now eligible to have sunscreen on prescription.¹

The Drug Tariff is a monthly article created by the NHS Prescription Services on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care. It outlines a limited list of drugs and medical devices that can be prescribed by Doctors using NHS prescriptions. It also lists the criteria for which they should be used. These recent changes have outlined the conditions that are now eligible to have sunscreen prescribed due to photosensitivity. PLE is named as an indication that can have sunscreen prescribed.

What is actinic prurigo?

Actinic prurigo is a rare form of skin sensitivity brought about by photosensitivity, or sensitivity to sunlight.² The name comes from the Greek words 'actinic' which means 'relating to light', and 'pruritus', meaning 'itch'.² Skin affected by actinic prurigo is usually firm, itchy and slightly raised in areas that are commonly exposed to the sun.² In terms of the cause of this condition, studies suggest a genetic component whereby certain proteins may be altered by sunlight, leading to an allergic reaction.²

What should you do next?

Speak to your health care professional. They will be familiar with your condition, symptoms and triggers, and can determine whether the use of sunscreen is required for your management strategy. While the Drug Tariff only specifies a limited number of conditions as being eligible, the list is not exhaustive and NHS dermatology specialists can give consideration to other high-risk patients.[1] To see the full list of conditions now eligible please see our [Sunscreen on prescription page](#).

What sunscreens can I be prescribed?

The Drug Tariff lists only a small selection of sunscreens available for prescription.¹ SunSense Ultra SPF50+ is one of them. SunSense Ultra SPF50+ not only provides very high, broad-spectrum protection, with an SPF of 50+ and a 5-star UVA rating, but is a light, smooth lotion that's easy to apply and is readily absorbed. It also contains moisturising Vitamin B3 to help improve skin tone and texture as well as replenish dry skin.

SunSense Ultra is designed for everyday use, making it an ideal choice for people with photosensitivity conditions.

If you have any queries about getting SunSense or sunscreen on prescription please contact us at info.uk@egopharm.com.



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