How to apply

Viscopaste Bandages

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Additional information

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

**Benefits of paste bandage**

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

1. 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. These bandages are never used on chest or back.

2. Viscopaste bandages are usually applied directly on skin. There may be times however when the Dermatologist will prescribe steroids immediately before the bandage application.

3. Paste 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.

4. 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.

5. The bandages can be used at night. A soft bandage is applied over the paste bandages to secure them in place. The dermatology team however may advise to use them for longer periods.

*It is important not to use these bandages when an infection is present on the skin.*

Contact the Dermatology department should you have any questions or concerns.