

## Dermatology Scope of Practice Guidelines

**The PA may initiate, continue, or modify treatment** of uncomplicated skin conditions without direct physician supervision or consultation:

- acne and related disorders
- inflammatory dermatoses (including uncomplicated psoriasis [non-erythrodermic psoriasis])
- infectious dermatoses (including bacterial, viral, fungal, and parasitic diseases and infestations)
- benign neoplasms
- dyschromias
- alopecia
- disorders due to photoaging
- uncomplicated bullous dermatoses
- focal cutaneous malignancies (actinic keratoses, basal cell carcinomas, squamous cell carcinomas)

Occasionally, the PA may be expected to **continue treatment** for a more complicated condition if so delegated by the supervising physician or if a physician is not available. Such treatment will be limited to temporary medication refills for up to 30 days until supervising physician follow-up is obtained.

**The PA's may initiate, continue, or modify treatment** with drug therapy, medical devices, and minor surgical procedures appropriate to the treatment of patients in a general dermatology practice.

**Drug therapy** which may be prescribed:

- topical and systemic anti-inflammatory medications, including oral and intramuscular corticosteroids, NSAIDs, and colchicine
- topical and systemic antibacterial, antiviral, antifungal, and antiparasitic medications
- topical and injectable local anesthetics
- topical acne, psoriasis, and wart medications
- systemic antihistamines, including doxepin
- injectable systemic immunosuppressants, including biologics and corticosteroids
- oral corticosteroids
- oral antimalarials
- isotretinoin
- antiandrogens (spironolactone, finasteride)
- eflornithine
- hydroxyurea
- amitriptyline
- miscellaneous dermatologic preparations such as antipruritics, moisturizers, barrier creams, keratolytics, sunscreens, shampoos, vitamin/mineral/amino acid supplements, minoxidil, and hydroquinone
- compounded topical medications
- anaphylaxis kits

Medical devices:

- ultraviolet light therapy
- bandages, dressings
- support hose

Minor surgical procedures:

- cryotherapy
- debridement
- suturing
- shave, punch, or incisional biopsies
- shave, punch, or fusiform excisions
- curettage and electrodesiccation
- assisting in Mohs surgery

The PA may **continue** treatment for up to 30 days with the following medications until supervising physician follow-up can be obtained:

- methotrexate
- psoralens
- azathioprine
- acitretin

**The PA will immediately consult or refer to the supervising physician** all patients with complicated diagnostic and treatment problems and all conditions which present outside the scope of these guidelines, including:

- melanomas and other malignancies which require wide excision or Mohs surgery
- extensive bullous or exfoliative dermatoses
- cutaneous manifestations of systemic diseases, including HIV-related dermatoses
- pregnancy-related dermatoses
- cutaneous lymphomas
- mycobacterial infections