

**Q11: If a patient has skin type V and is receiving hand and foot PUVA, would you limit the dose? And what about UVB?**

**A:** Not necessarily. The top dose (for both UVB and for PUVA) is set as what is practicable, considering reasonable times for patients and also to ensure adequate throughput of patients (if one patient has very high doses, corresponding to long treatment times, fewer other patients can be treated so, depending on the unit, possibly lengthening waiting times to start treatment). Most centres consider about 15 minutes (some take 10 minutes) as the maximum reasonable time for a treatment with either UVA, to activate the psoralen in PUVA, or for UVB. There is flexibility – if for an individual increasing the dose further seems a good idea (perhaps that patient has benefitted from higher doses before) then if the patient is comfortable with longer times and the unit can offer this a higher top dose is reasonable. No studies have compared different policies regarding top doses.