

The cover features a dark blue background with a faint, semi-transparent image of a woman in a white lab coat and glasses, looking down. At the top, there are four overlapping circles in shades of blue. On the right side, there is a vertical bar with five colored segments: orange, red-orange, red, dark red, and light blue. At the bottom, there is a horizontal bar with a gradient from blue to red to orange.

**FOSCAN<sup>®</sup>**

patient's  
guide

for Foscan<sup>®</sup>-PDT

**bio**  
**lTEC**  
PHARMA

# In case of emergency

## Patient details

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Telephone number

## Next of kin details

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Telephone number

## Doctor details

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Telephone number

## Emergency contact details

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Telephone number

# Introduction

This guide has been prepared to help you understand how your cancer will be treated using Foscan<sup>®</sup>, and to answer some questions you may have about the treatment. The precautions you should take before and after treatment with Foscan<sup>®</sup> to avoid a photosensitivity reaction, a possible side effect following treatment with photodynamic therapy (PDT), are also described.

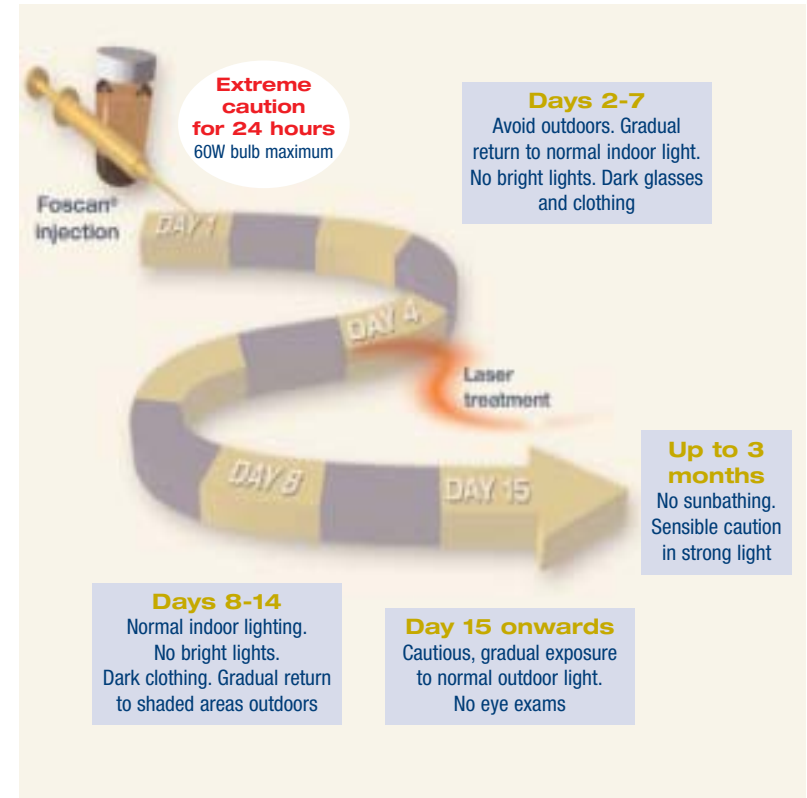
We hope you will find this guide useful. However, is not intended to replace information provided to you by your doctor or nurse. If you have any unanswered questions, please contact your doctor or nurse.



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# Foscan<sup>®</sup>-PDT time line



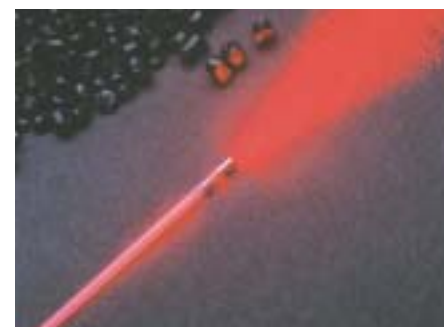
## What is photodynamic therapy?

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) is a new treatment for cancer. PDT uses a combination of laser light and a light-sensitive drug (Foscan®) to wipe out cancer cells.

Foscan® is injected into the bloodstream and is taken up by cells throughout the body. Foscan® gathers in cancer cells, but is not activated until exposed to light. When a laser light is shone onto the cancer, Foscan® is triggered, and destroys the cancer cells.

The laser light used in PDT is focused through a fibre-optic (like a thread made of glass). The doctor holds the fibre-optic very close to the cancer so that the correct amount of light is delivered. This means that PDT causes the minimum amount of damage to normal, healthy cells.

Even if you have had surgery, radiotherapy, or chemotherapy in the past, you can still be treated safely with PDT.



# Preparation for injection

Foscan® will make you very sensitive to light. Normal daylight or bright indoor light will burn your skin for at least 15 days after injection.

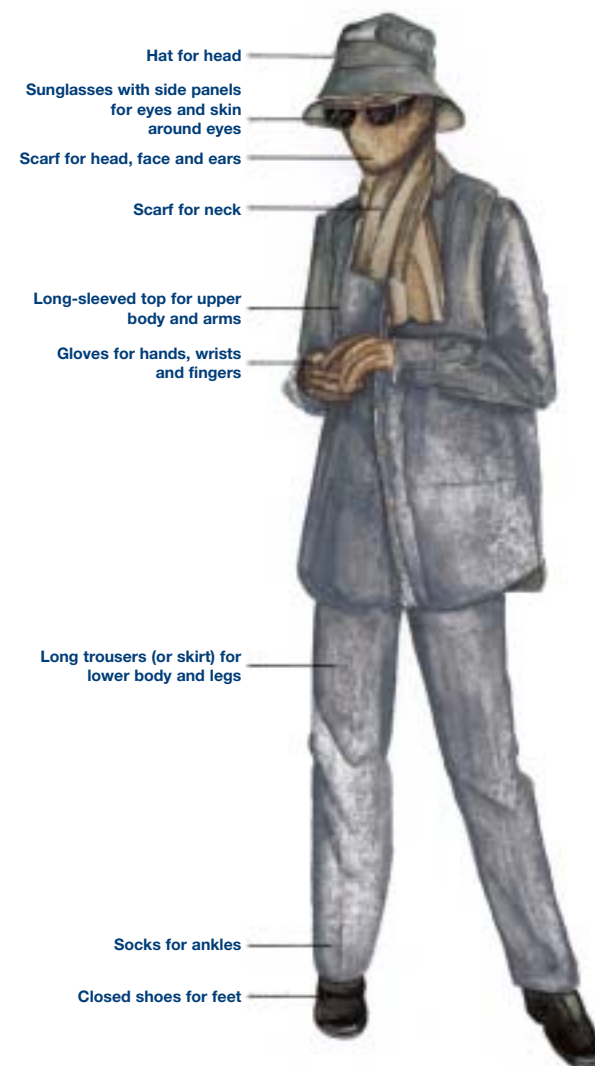
You must therefore take some precautions to prepare your home and yourself for your return after injection.

Cover all windows with dark curtains or other material. No light should be allowed to escape at the edges or where the curtains meet.

Light coming from fires (e.g. heaters, cookers), televisions, or computers or through open doors must be avoided.

Please read through the second part of this book 'Foscan® light exposure guidelines for patients' to familiarise yourself with the precautions you should take.

Make sure you have a set of dark clothing that will cover your head and body entirely and a pair of dark glasses with side panels. You must wear these items after you have been injected with Foscan® to stop light reaching your skin and causing burns.



## Foscan® injection

Your doctor or nurse will give you Foscan® by injection into a vein. You may feel some pain or discomfort when Foscan® is injected. There may be some irritation or skin damage where Foscan® is injected, but usually this will not last for long.

## Laser treatment

Your doctor will cover the normal tissue surrounding your cancer and then shine the laser light directly at the cancer for about 5 minutes. The laser light is not hot and will not burn.

If your cancer is not easy to reach, you may be given a general anaesthetic. Alternatively, your doctor may numb the area with a local anaesthetic or give you a sedative.

You may feel some pain after the laser treatment. This pain can be controlled with painkillers. Please let your doctor or nurse know if you are in pain or if the painkillers they have given you are not taking the pain away.



## After laser treatment

After the laser treatment, you will probably notice some swelling and reddening around the area that has been treated. You may be given some medicine to reduce the swelling.

After 2 to 4 days, the treated area will turn black. This blackness is caused by dead cancer cells, and is a good sign that the treatment is working. You may have a creamy discharge from the site and may notice a bad smell; these can be treated with an antibiotic.

The dead cells will fall away during the next 4 weeks. During this period, you may need to return to hospital to have the treated area cleaned.

By 12 weeks after treatment, the treated area should be clean and healed.

## Light sensitivity

Because of the risk of serious burns after injection with Foscan<sup>®</sup>, you must avoid daylight and bright indoor lighting for at least 15 days. Foscan<sup>®</sup> gathers in the skin and any direct sunlight or bright artificial light falling on the skin will activate it, causing serious burns.

- Wear dark glasses, especially if you have to go outside during daylight hours. Bright lights may damage your eyes.
- Cover your body completely with dark clothes made of closely woven material.
- Do not use sunscreen – it will not protect you from burns.
- If you feel a prickly or burning sensation, get out of the light immediately and seek urgent medical advice.

You can minimise the risk of light sensitivity by carefully following the instructions given in the second part of this book 'Foscan<sup>®</sup> light exposure guidelines for patients'.

You may be given a "Medical Alert" card to keep in your wallet or purse. In an emergency, this card will advise people that you have been treated with Foscan<sup>®</sup>-PDT and that you are sensitive to light.

