Pediatric Dermatology Expands Phototherapy Program

The Department of Pediatric Dermatology at Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo has been offering phototherapy since 2013 and is very pleased to announce greatly expanded hours for this treatment.

Phototherapy is a state-of-the-art ultraviolet light therapy used to treat a wide variety of skin disorders including eczema, psoriasis, vitiligo, pityriasis rosea, and many others.

The Department’s phototherapy treatment utilizes narrow-band ultraviolet B which is considered the safest ultraviolet treatment. Treatments are brief, painless and are typically recommended 2-3 times a week.

“We are so happy to be able to offer this safe and effective treatment to our patients,” said Ilene L. Rothman, MD, Chief of Pediatric Dermatology, Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University at Buffalo. “For those with severe eczema and extensive psoriasis who are in need of effective therapy beyond creams and ointments, phototherapy is a wonderful alternative to strong systemic medications.”

Due to the frequency of treatments, the dermatology team has worked hard to make these visits as convenient as possible for patients and families. Hours have expanded to include many early morning, late afternoon and some early evening appointments in order to accommodate school and work schedules. Additionally, the Department provides special free parking spaces in close proximity to the phototherapy unit for these brief appointments.

Patients up to age 18 are treated in the phototherapy unit, and the Department can now accommodate a limited number of adults as well. The dermatology team looks forward to their larger state-of-the-art unit opening in the new Pediatric Ambulatory Care Center in the Conventus Building on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in early 2017 which will accommodate even more patients, including adults.

For more information on phototherapy or to schedule an appointment with Pediatric Dermatology at Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo, please call (716) 878-7172. All insurance is accepted.