

Information for Patients

Taping Advice

Physiotherapy Service

Your physiotherapist has decided that a taping procedure is an appropriate part of your treatment. Tape may be applied to support muscles and joints as they recover from injury. Taping may also be used when returning to normal activity such as sport to reduce the risk of re-injury.

It is important that you inform your physiotherapist of any known allergy to tape.

Additional considerations;

How will I know if I'm allergic to the tape?

- If the skin around the taped area becomes red, itchy, burns or blisters you may be allergic to the tape.

What should I do?

- If you develop an allergic skin reaction you should remove the tape immediately. The skin should be washed and patted dry. Do not reapply any tape again and ensure that you inform your physiotherapist.
- If at any time you feel that the tape is aggravating your injury then you should remove it.

How do I remove the tape?

- Do not tear the tape off quickly as this may damage your skin and lead to further irritation or infection.
- Always remove the tape slowly and carefully easing it away from the skin.
- The tape may be softened in water beforehand to aid its removal.

How do I know if the tape is too tight?

- The tape is too tight if the skin below the tape loses its normal colour.
- You may also experience pins and needles or numbness.
- If this occurs remove the tape immediately.

How do I know if the tape has been on too long?

- Your physiotherapist should instruct you on a suitable time to leave the tape in place.
- Remove the tape within the time as directed by your physiotherapist.
- Prolonged use of tape can cause the skin to become red and sore.
- If you notice skin reactions at any time whilst the tape is in place remove it straight away.
- Do not re-apply the tape until the skin reaction has resolved.

If you are in doubt at any time remove the tape and discuss the matter with your physiotherapist.

“This document is available in Welsh / Mae’r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg”