

Bakersfield Dermatology & Skin Cancer Medical Group
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**Treatment of Superficial Skin Cancer and Actinic Keratosis
with Aldara (Imiquimod)**

Aldara is a topical medication that can be used to treat superficial forms of skin cancer (e.g. superficial basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma in situ). Aldara does not adequately treat invasive (deeper) tumors. Aldara stimulates your own immune system to attack the cancer. Aldara is ideal for treating poorly defined skin cancers and areas where surgery may leave a significant scar. The scarring with Aldara is usually minimal.

Instructions for use of Aldara:

1. Poke a small hole at the top of the package. One package may often be used for more than one application.
2. Apply the Aldara cream to the following areas:

3. Apply: Every night Every other night 3 times per week
4. Apply for: _____ days.
5. Expect Aldara to cause SIGNIFICANT INFLAMMATION, REDNESS, POSSIBLE BLEEDING, SOME PAIN, IRRITATION AND ITCHING. This is an indication that the medication is working. ***If the area becomes so tender that it is painful to sleep or drains continuously, stop the medication and call our office.***
6. **Wash site(s) thoroughly with soap and water daily.**
7. After stopping Aldara expect the area to remain inflamed for several days. You will not be able to judge treatment success for at least 2 months after ending treatment.