

Patient presents to GP with concerns re facial hirsutism (N.B. this pathway does not deal with hirsutism elsewhere in the body)

Patient should only trim or shave for 6 weeks prior to physical examination by referrer. (hair growth pattern must be visible to assess severity)



Cosmetic (upper lip only +/- light to moderate growth elsewhere on face)

No NHS treatment available

- ✦ Reassure patient that some facial hair growth is normal, especially in dark-haired women and/or with increasing age
- ✦ Offer cosmetic management advice e.g. waxing, bleaching, plucking, threading, private laser
- ✦ Reassure patient that hair removal is not dangerous

Significant disfigurement with heavy male pattern hair growth

Send bloods for analysis **N.B. if hair growth is sudden [<3 months] refer urgently to endocrinology**

Results abnormal

Refer to gynaecology or endocrinology

Results normal + acne +/- female pattern hair loss

Refer to Dermatology

Results normal; no other symptoms

Prescribe Vaniqua (eflornithine hydrochloride) for 4 months

Poor or no response

Good response

Continue treatment

Refer to laser suite with completed form **if this service is available locally** (Note: incomplete referrals will be returned; patients who fall outwith criteria will not be treated). **Only dark hair can be treated**