



## **TATTOO REMOVAL RISKS, AFTER CARE and CONSENT**

**4924 First Coast Hwy Suite # 6  
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034  
www.lashem-n-leavem.com  
(904) 673-6012**

### **General Information**

Salt Paste or Salabrasion therapy has been proven to be a safe and effective treatment for tattoo removal. Alternative treatments exist that include laser, over-tattooing, dry needling, dry or wet abrasion, acid and surgical removal with skin grafting. All of these come with respective inherent risks.

The risks with Salt Paste or Salabrasion treatment include: potential for scarring, bleeding, infection, lightening or darkening of the skin's natural pigment, hair loss, and inability for the affected area to tan. In some cases the therapy may fail to remove all pigment.

### **Education and Consent**

While the goal of the procedure is to remove all visible signs of the original tattoo with minimal to no scarring or other adverse outcomes, I understand that successful and complete removal of the tattoo depends upon many factors such as age of the original tattoo, depth of pigment implantation, type of pigment implanted, whether the original procedure was performed by a professional or armature tattoo artist, surface area and body location.

I understand that my cooperation in following and complying with all aftercare instructions is crucial to optimizing my chances of obtaining the desired outcome.

I understand this procedure is cosmetic and is not covered by health insurance. Lashem-n-Leavem does not bill for services and all agreed upon fees are due and payable at time of treatment. I also understand that 48 hours notice is required for cancellation of any appointment and without this or in the case of a missed appointment I will incur a fee of \$25.00 that will be charged to the credit card I have on file.

## **Tattoo removal procedure & after care instructions - salt paste method**

### **The Procedure and After Care**

Today's procedure involves using a sterile, dry tattoo needle to enter the top layers of the skin, reopening only the areas of skin that had previously been tattooed. Pretreatment is performed with topical anesthetics that include epinephrine to control potential pain and bleeding and possibly cold packs may or may not be applied to alleviate discomfort as much as possible.

Using the dry tattoo needle and following the exact same lines and surface as the original tattoo, access is gained to the deepest level necessary to expose the underlying pigment. Once the area is opened, additional topical anesthetic is applied for 10 minutes. Then a salt paste is introduced into the open area and left on for 20-30 minutes with occlusive dressing or as long as can be tolerated by the client.

At the end of this time period, the site is then rinsed clean either with filtered water or sterile normal saline. After the site is assessed, if tolerated well by the client, a second, fresh application of salt paste is introduced into the same site. The second application may be dressed and worn home by the client or may be removed and rinsed again then dressed with dry gauze dressing depending upon patient tolerance and preference.

It is important, in order to achieve maximum effectiveness of the removal process, for the client to continue with at least one if not two more episodes of salt paste treatment at home. This is because the original pigment will be lifted through and up out of the skin by the salt as the body attempts to rid itself of the hypertonic solution during healing. It is imperative that the site remains dry once all salt paste treatments are completed (usually within the 1st 12 hours of initial application in the studio.) No ointments lotions, tinctures or topical medications of any kind should be applied to the site. Only a dry, sterile gauze dressing may remain loosely over the surface area until a natural occlusive scab is formed.

This scab is key to lifting out the original tattoo ink or pigment! DO NOT touch, pick at or attempt to remove scab manually. The wound must completely heal and the scab must dry up and fall off entirely on its own. All pigment that lifted will be in this scab. To pull the scab off before it is time can result in unnecessary scarring and/or incomplete lift and removal of ink/pigment.

Monitor for signs of infection such as continued redness 3-4 days post procedure, excessive swelling, purulent drainage, increased tenderness with warmth at affected area or a general non-healing appearance after 2-3 days. Report these or any questions or concerns about similar signs and symptoms to me by calling (904) 673-6012.

In the event the site were to become infected the post care instructions as given above will not apply. The process for this episode of tattoo removal treatment would be abandoned and the signs and symptoms of potential infection should be treated by your physician.

Infections are relatively easy to prevent by keeping the site clean, dry and intact. Occlude with sterile gauze and do not touch or allow foreign elements (people, animals, sweat or dirt) to come into contact with treated area.

**By signing below I agree that:**

Verbal instructions and demonstration on how to perform the post procedure salt paste placement and home care were provided to me in *Lashem-n-Leavem's* studio. I have verbalized and demonstrated understanding of the procedure. I have been given opportunity to ask and have all questions answered. I have been provided the supplies necessary to continue the home care process. I understand that any photos shown to me of other client's tattoo removal results are for demonstrative, illustrative and educational purposes only and do not indicate a guarantee of my results. No guarantees or promises have been made to me of expected results or outcomes.

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Signature

Date

**I consent / do not consent (please circle one) to *Lashem-n-leavem's* anonymous use of my before and after tattoo removal photos for education and marketing purposes.**

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Signature

Date