

Chapter SPS 220

APPENDIX A

SUN-REACTIVE SKIN TYPES USED IN CLINICAL PRACTICES

| Skin Type | Skin Reactions to Solar Radiation* |
|-----------|--|
| I | Always burns easily and severely (pain); tans little or none and peels |
| II | Usually burns easily and severely (painful burn); tans minimally or lightly, also peels |
| III | Burns moderately and tans about average |
| IV | Burns minimally, tans easily and above average with each exposure; exhibits IPD (immediate pigment darkening**) reaction |
| V | Rarely burns, tans easily and substantially; always exhibits IPD reaction |
| VI | Never burns and tans profusely; exhibits IPD reaction |

Note: Categories are based on the Fitzpatrick Skin Type Scale.

*Based on the first 45-60 minutes (equals 2-3 minimum erythema dose) exposure of the summer sun (early June) at sea level.

**Immediate pigment darkening refers to the skin's response to sun exposure that occurs within the first few minutes to a few hours after exposure to sunlight.