

When I was a junior in high school, I developed a secondary cancer of the skin which was not a melanoma, it was called Lymphomatoid papulosis CD 30 positive also known as LYP. I was being seen by a specialty dermatologist at OHSU and being followed by an oncologist. This condition presented itself on my face and looked like an open wound, and was very itchy.

All of the treatments that were tried included, pills, creams, oral chemotherapy, antibiotics, and a photo light therapy machine that made me very sick. The photo light therapy machine reminded me of a tanning bed, so I asked my doctor if I could use a tanning bed instead, he said that he would not recommend it to treat LYP. But since I was a teenager and knew everything, my mother and I agreed we would try a tanning bed. After the first tanning session I noticed improvement and after five additional tanning treatments during the next two weeks my face was totally clear.

I went back to the dermatologist, and he was really shocked that my face was cleared up; he asked what happened and when I told him that I went to a tanning salon he said "oh".... He then told me that I should start tanning when I get the lesions back, and went on to tell me that no more than 45 minutes of tanning per week broken up into at least three different days.

Brittney Evans