

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CRYOSURGICAL TREATMENT OF ACTINIC AND SEBORRHEIC KERATOSES

Treated sites will likely swell within minutes.

Mild discomfort may be present for several hours after your treatment.

Usually, treated sites will darken and develop red to brown, dry crusted surfaces within 2 – 3 days. This does not require any special care. Band-aids are not needed, but may be used for cosmetic purposes to cover wounds.

Occasionally, oozing or actual blistering develops. This occurs more commonly on the face. In such instances, especially if blisters break, **apply a thin coating of petroleum jelly (Vaseline brand or generic)** and cover with a band-aid. We suggest that you purchase a new, small tube or jar. If you prefer not to wear a band-aid, apply the petroleum jelly 2-3 times daily until healed. Avoid make-up until the sites are healed.

Healing generally occurs within 1 ½ - 3 weeks. The crusted surfaces peel away, leaving smooth pink colored areas. The pink color usually fades within several weeks. Occasionally treated areas darken somewhat as they continue to heal. This usually clears in time.

Sometimes a single treatment fails to completely remove the growth. In such instances a second treatment usually results in complete removal.