

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CRYOSURGICAL TREATMENT OF WARTS

The treated site will likely swell within minutes.

Pain may be present for several hours after your treatment, for which you may take Tylenol. Immersing your hands in tepid tap water for 10 - 15 minutes may provide some relief. In all cases, pain should be minimal in 1 - 2 days. **Call the office if pain becomes increasingly severe** as days pass, as this could represent infection (a rare event).

A blister often develops within hours, or by the next day. It may be purple or blue-black due to blood. It will probably be 2 - 3 times the size of the treated wart and will dry, scab over and flatten with 2 - 3 weeks.

If a blister is exceptionally painful or is cosmetically unacceptable, you may lance it with the lance we have provided. Wipe with alcohol and lance in several places from the sides, not through the top of the wart. This should significantly decrease discomfort. Soaking in tepid water for 10 - 15 minutes twice daily may further reduce discomfort.

If a blister opens by itself (or is opened by you), gently cleanse the site daily with soap and water (showering is allowed), **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 of jar. If you prefer not to wear a band-aid, apply the petroleum jelly 2 - 3 times a day.

If blisters have not formed, or have not opened, band-aids are not necessary but may be used for cosmetic purposes.

Healing occurs within 2 - 3 weeks; however, warts often require more than one treatment. Be sure to keep your follow up appointment if the doctor has suggested one. Warts that persist after treatment often grow larger if left untreated.

New small bumps that appear in or around a treated site after healing has occurred (within weeks or months) likely represent recurrent warts. Call the office to schedule an appointment for re-treatment as such warts have a tendency to rapidly grow larger if left untreated.