



Wart and Molluscum After Care:

Treatment with Cantharidin (“Blister Beetle Juice”)

- **Avoid** getting the treated area moist with sweat or water until after cantharidin has been washed off.
- *Wash the medication off in ____ hours.* If a bandage was applied, soak it in water before removing to ease removal. Do not scrub but ensure all cantharidin is removed to prevent intense or further blistering.
- If blisters are large and uncomfortable, a sterile needle can be used to drain them. The skin on top should be kept in place and not peeled off as it acts as protection for the wound underneath.
- Apply Vaseline or Polysporin (NOT NEOSPORIN) to the site and cover with a bandage once or twice daily. Some patients develop an irritant or allergic reaction to bandages. If this occurs, use paper tape and gauze.
- If you notice any signs of infection such as fever, foul smelling drainage, marked redness, swelling, or intense pain, call our office.
- **DO NOT ALLOW THE CANTHARIDIN TO SPREAD OR RUB ONTO OTHER AREAS OF YOUR BODY. EVERY SITE THAT COMES INTO CONTACT WITH THE MEDICATION WILL BLISTER. THIS CAN OCCUR WHEN YOU SWEAT OR AN UNTREATED AREA OF SKIN TOUCHES A TREATED AREA. BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL IF THE TREATMENT AREA IS IN A CREASE OF YOUR SKIN (i.e. BACK OF KNEES)**

Wart Care (at home care in between visits)

- Following the treatment with liquid nitrogen or cantharidin in the office, the wart(s) will become irritated and may crust, scab, or blister.
- If a blister develops, it is ok to drain it with a sterile needle or pin
- Gently file the treated area(s) after bathing with either a fresh piece of sandpaper or a disposable emery board
- Dispose of this sandpaper or emery board, using a new piece or new side of the board every night to prevent re-infection with the wart virus
- Following this, you may apply an over the counter wart treatment with salicylic acid like Compound W
- Cover this with Vaseline and a bandage until repeated treatment the following day

Because of the stubborn nature of warts and molluscum, follow up every 2 weeks is recommended until the lesion is resolved.

Do not pick at warts or molluscum as they are contagious and can spread.