

## TREATMENT OF WARTS AND MOLLUSCUM

**WART** - Caused by a virus and can spread or be contagious if not treated. Often these will take multiple treatments to fully resolve. They may return months to years later. Usually acquired by direct contact with a wart or an object recently touched by someone else with warts, especially in wet environments - swimming pools, gym equipment.

**MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM** - Small wart like growths caused by a virus. Most common in children. They can spread to other body areas and be contagious if not treated. Often will take multiple treatments to fully resolve. Usually acquired by direct contact with lesions but may be transmitted in group environments such as swimming pools or day cares.

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**CRYOTHERAPY (Freezing)** - The areas treated will become red and possibly may "puff up" like a bee sting. They may form a small blister. You may take Tylenol or Advil if necessary for pain. It is better not to pop the blisters, but if they pop on their own, just keep them clean. If they become extremely painful, call the office. The area will form a scab after 2-3 days. The scab will fall off in about 1 week for spots on the face or 2-3 weeks for spots on other areas. You may wash the areas normally beginning today.

**CANTHARONE (Beetle Juice)** - Remove the bandaids in 4-6 hours and wash off with soap and water. Then follow the same directions for freezing (above).

**BLEOMYCIN INJECTION** - This is a very dilute form of chemotherapy which kills the wart by cutting off the blood supply and slowing down the growth of the virus. It will not cause hair loss or other toxic effects. There is no care necessary other than keeping the area clean. Any pain can be treated with Tylenol or Advil.

\*\*\*It is critical that you keep follow up appointments and continue with treatment until the lesions are completely gone. Failure to do so is the most common reason for recurrences.