

Liquid Nitrogen Treatment

Liquid nitrogen is a cold, liquefied gas, used to freeze and destroy skin growths such as warts, molluscum, pre-cancerous spots, and keratosis. Liquid nitrogen may cause discomfort while the area is being frozen. The discomfort should gradually fade over a period of several minutes but may last up to an hour or two.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- After the liquid nitrogen treatment, your skin may become **red** or **swollen**. Later on, it may **blister**. If this happens, cleanse the area once a day with soap and water; apply Vaseline or Aquaphor, and then a bandage. Follow this care until the area is healed or until your next visit. A **scab** may form which will fall off by itself. Blisters and swelling are normal side effects of treatment and will heal gradually. However, if there is excessive swelling, blistering, pain or pustular drainage, please call the office for instructions.
- When treating warts and molluscum (viral lesions) most patients will require multiple treatments. We recommend that the lesions be treated with liquid nitrogen in the office every 2-3 weeks to ensure clearance. ***If treatment is stopped prematurely, the lesions will grow back.***
- When pre-cancerous lesions (actinic keratosis) or benign growths (seborrheic keratosis) are treated, you should expect that the lesions clear completely after a single treatment. If the lesions persist several weeks after treatment, please call our office. You may require a second treatment for complete clearance.

AFTER CARE FOR WARTS:

- Keep area clean and dry until any blistering or scabbing is healed
- For thick warts, file down the warts several times a week in the shower or after bathing when the skin is moist and soft. Use an emery board or pumice stone and file in one direction to reduce discomfort. Do not share this tool with other family members to avoid transferring the virus.
- For warts that are more stubborn, you may be given a prescription cream to apply to the area throughout the week in between your office visits. Please let us know if you experience any pain or severe irritation during this time.

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