



AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANTHARIDIN (WART or MOLLUSCUM) TREATMENT

1. Remove tape (if used) and then wash the cantharidin off thoroughly with soap and water **no longer than FOUR HOURS after it was applied in the office.**

WASH OFF SOONER if there is any any pain, burning, or discomfort.

2. Expect blistering within 24 hours. The day after treatment blister(s) may enlarge and fill with fluid and be painful. Use a cool compresses and/or oral pain medications (acetaminophen or ibuprofen) as needed to control pain.

DO NOT REMOVE THE BLISTER on purpose. If necessary, make a small hole in the blister using a sterile needle (can dip a pin or seeing needle in rubbing alcohol and wipe dry) and squeeze the fluid out by gently pressing on the blister with clean hands.

3. Next, there are usually crusted lesions which fall off leaving superficial erosions within 4-5 days.

4. Treat superficial erosions with petroleum jelly (aka Vaseline) twice a day until healing occurs by 5-10 days after treatment.

5. **FOR WARTS** (not molluscum) after skin healing has occurred, apply OTC salicylic acid 17% (Compound W or other brand) to the base of the lesion(s) one time a day for 5-7 days as tolerated in order to prevent wart recurrences around the treatment edges.

6. The treated area may also itch or look red after treatment. Call the office if this is bothersome or if there is still significant burning, stinging or pain after the blister is popped.

7. IT IS RARE, but anyone can have a severe allergic reaction to any medicine.

CALL 911 if you notice hives, swelling of the face, or trouble breathing after treatment with topical cantharidin..