

CANTHARADIN TREATMENT OF WARTS AND MOLLUSCUM

Cantharadin is applied by your dermatologist to treat some warts and molluscum. Cantharadin is painless on application but then causes blistering of the wart within 24 hours. Occasionally the blister fills with blood so do not be surprised.

The Procedure by your dermatologist

The wart may be pared down first (mollusca are never pared down)

A drop of the cantharadin is applied

A tape is used to cover the area of the wart (mollusca are never covered with tape)

What you need to do

For warts, after 4 hours, remove the tape covering the wart and wash well with soap and water to remove all the cantharadin

For mollusca, after 2 hours, wash well with soap and water to remove all the cantharadin

If the blister is painful and tight you can prick it with a sterile needle for instant relief

To prevent infection you can apply Betadine paint to the area twice daily especially after pricking

Take Panadol for pain as required

By 4-7 days the blister/scab has usually come away leaving a red healed area that may itch

If the wart or molluscum persists the treatment will be repeated in 2 weeks time and may need several more sessions after that

What to watch for

Any redness spreading from the treatment area up the arm or leg with tenderness and pain and especially if associated with fever indicates infection has developed. You should contact the dermatologist immediately for antibiotics.

If a ring of warts develops around the treated area do not be alarmed. These can be treated with cantharadin.

PLEASE STRICTLY FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS AT ALL

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