



ICLS

Dermatology & Plastic Surgery

Let's Begin Your Journey Together.

Learn more about our suite of expert procedures.

Our ICLS team of experts are here to help support and guide you as you explore the available options that are right for you. This guide is designed to provide you with general information about our suite of procedures. During consultation, our nurses will take the time to fully understand your goals before discussing your available options.

It is also so important to understand the risks and limitations of every procedure. During consultation and prior to treatment, all of the possible risks will be reviewed with you in full.

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Wart Removal | Lesions

Warts removal therapies treat warts found on the top layer of the skin, including on the hands, feet and face.

Warts are skin growths caused by a viral infection in the top layer of the skin or mucous membranes. The virus can be transmitted from person to person, although some individuals are more susceptible than others. Warts cannot be prevented but you can take precautionary measures and avoid spread by washing your hands regularly, avoiding picking or scratching active areas and avoiding coming into contact with warm moist surfaces where the virus thrives. Common warts are the most typical and can appear as a single lesion or in clusters called mosaic warts. They are usually found on the fingers and backs of the hands. Plantar warts are found only on the plantar (bottom) aspect of the feet. These can also be single or multiple. If they are over high-pressure areas they may be painful.

Procedure Details

Pulsed Dye Laser with Immunotherapy: this laser emits a powerful beam of light into the wart. This results in damage to the vessels that supply the wart with blood. We also stimulate the immune system by injecting an antigen preparation of Candida, Trichophyton or Vitamin D, to the area of the wart. This helps the body recognize the wart and fight the virus. PDL and immunotherapy is very successful in treating warts that occur around the nails and multiple warts on the body or the feet. Immediately after treatment you may experience some bruising and possible swelling.

Topical Agents: Veregen Ointment is a green tea extract that may also be prescribed and applied every night on the area. This is used in conjunction with a topical over the counter cream called Universkin which contains salicylic acid, phytic acid, and glycolic.

SADBE: This is a topical solution of 3% SADBE (Squaric Acid Dibutylester) which is applied directly to the wart. This solution is to be washed off approximately 12 hours later. The process is repeated 4 weeks later with 0.3% SADBE solution. This treatment causes an inflammatory response that stimulates the immune system to fight the virus.

Debulking: Larger warts may be excised as a first line therapy, followed by treatment with pulsed dye laser, immunotherapy, topical prescriptions and over the counter products.

5-Fluorouracil (5-FU) injections: This is a chemotherapy medication that can be injected into the wart to help stop the replication of the wart cell



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Electrocautery: Facial warts are treated using cautery which requires an electrical current to be passed through a small metal tip. This current sends heat into the tip, and then the tip is placed on to the treatment area. For larger areas and multiple lesions, a topical numbing cream may be applied 45 minutes prior to treatment to reduce discomfort. Patients should expect to be in the office anywhere from 45 minutes to 1.5 hours for this procedure. After cautery, a slight burning sensation, redness or swelling may be experienced. An ice pack can be applied to help with any discomfort. The area that is treated may scab anywhere from 7-10 days to 2 weeks. The area should be washed with water and a mild soap, and then Fucidin ointment should be applied twice a day for 5 days. It is very important to wear a minimum of SPF 60 post treatment.

Carbon Dioxide Laser (CO2): CO2 emits a ray of light that vaporizes the wart, allowing your immune system to heal the skin from within. This treatment is an aggressive method and is best suited for one or two warts, as opposed to a large area of warts. The post-operative downtime is long, and the treated area may take 8-12 weeks to heal. Immediately post treatment, there is some pain at the treatment site. Once the treatment area has fully healed it should be followed up with 2-4 PDL with immunotherapy to prevent reoccurrence. The success rate is approximately 50-80%.

The area will be locally frozen with an injectable anesthetic to ensure comfort during the procedure. The bulk of the wart will be removed using a shave technique. The CO2 laser is then used to vaporize the remaining wart, leaving an open hole. The open area is treated with an antibiotic ointment and covered with a dressing. You will be taught how to clean, care for, and dress the wound during the healing period.

8 weeks following CO2, patients will return for their PDL treatments, spaced 4 weeks apart. At these appointments, the area will be pulsed several times with the Pulsed Dye Laser, causing mild discomfort and bruising. The area will also be injected with an inactive yeast in an attempt to further stimulate the immune system. These follow up treatments are very important, as they decrease the likelihood that the wart will return.

A prescription for a topical antibiotic will be provided along with post care instructions. The area is to be washed with gentle soap and water twice a day, followed by antibiotic cream. Depending on the area being treated and associated discomfort, you may need a drive home or may need to be off work for a short period of time