

Cryosurgery (Liquid Nitrogen Freezing) Site Care Instructions

You have had cryosurgery performed by your provider to treat precancerous lesions or warts. Cryosurgery freezes the skin growth. As it thaws, there may be some throbbing or discomfort for a few hours. If you have any pain, take Extra-Strength Tylenol. You may also elevate the area or apply cool water compresses to help relieve the discomfort.

Within a few hours to a day, you can expect the area treated to become red, swollen and moist. It will often form a blister. If the area is near your eye, the eyelid may actually swell shut.

After a few days (usually around five days) a crust will form over the area that was treated. Complete healing may take two to three weeks. Often a whitish scar will form in the area treated. This may fade over the next few months.

Please follow these instructions to take care of the site treated:

1. Bathe gently with soap and water as usual.
2. Apply light coating of **Polysporin** ointment or **Bacitracin** ointment (or other antibiotic ointment provided) on the treated site. Do not use Neosporin ointment because 1-2% of the population will have an allergic reaction to this ointment. Try not to allow the area to scab or form a crust as this impedes healing and increases scarring.
3. Keep the area **clean**.
4. You may cover the area with a loose band-aid or dry gauze.
5. Do **not** pull off the blister because it is protecting the healing tissue below.
6. If you develop a fever, significant redness, pain, swelling, or have a discharge from the site, call the office at **352-332-4442**.

***** NOTE: Procyte™ Copper Complex** is available for purchase (\$20) for patients interested in maximizing the cosmetic outcome of his/her surgical scar. Please ask the nurse or check-out staff for this product if you are interested.