LIQUID NITROGEN TREATMENT

Liquid Nitrogen is extremely cold and, when applied to the skin, usually forms a blister which may differ in various sites on the body. Liquid Nitrogen is used to treat various skin lesions, most commonly warts and actinic keratoses.

**Warts**

1. The blister usually forms within a few hours and may be filled with either a clear fluid or blood tinged or purplish fluid.

2. There is usually some discomfort and/or throbbing which lasts up to a few hours.

3. Be careful not to break the blister. However, if the blister is unusually large or tender, boil a needle for 5 minutes, wipe the needle and the blister with rubbing alcohol and puncture the blister. Do not unroof the blister. Fluid may refill the blister again.

4. If you puncture the blister, or if it breaks on its own, compress the area with gauze pads soaked in warm water or Domeboro compresses for 15 minutes three times per day. After compressing, dry the area and apply Aquaphor, Polysporin or Neosporin Ointment. Cover the area with clean, dry gauze or Band-Aids.

5. You may get the area wet. Please keep the site clean.

6. If there is marked swelling, pain, redness or if pus develops, please call the office.

7. There may be minimal scarring, however, there usually is a change in the skin color.

8. Warts may need to be retreated and they may recur or enlarge as with most other treatments for warts.

**Actinic Keratoses**

1. A blister may form. Do not puncture it.

2. Keep the area as clean as possible.

3. You may wear a bandage, however, this is optional.

4. You may bathe but be careful around the site.

5. If the blister is large, apply Aquaphor, Polysporin or Neosporin Ointment to it. Leave roof intact.

6. After the blister opens, apply Aquaphor, Polysporin or Neosporin Ointment to the site 2-3 times daily.