

**AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CANTHARIDIN
(WART) TREATMENT**

1. Remove tape (if used) and then wash the cantharidin off thoroughly with soap and water no longer than FOUR-SIX HOURS AFTER it was applied in the office. **WASH OFF SOONER if there is 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 compress 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 sewing 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. 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.
6. IT IS RARE, but anyone can have a severe allergic reaction to any medicine. **CALL 911 as soon as possible if you notice hives, swelling of the face, or trouble breathing after treatment with topical cantharidin.**

Please call our office if you have any questions or concerns.

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