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Liquid Nitrogen **Treatment Information**

Liquid nitrogen is a very cold liquid solution, and when it is put in contact with a spot on your skin, it "freezes" the tissue. This freezing process should destroy and remove the spot. The solution is so cold that when applied, it feels hot, and you will feel a burning sensation where it is applied.

This moderate discomfort will disappear in about 15 to 20 minutes, although you may experience minor discomfort for one to two days. You will see an area of redness where the solution was applied, and it may feel a little tender to your touch.

A light blister usually forms within a few days, oftentimes within a few hours. Do not disturb or burst this blister. Over time, it will dry up and form a light crust or thicker scab. Sometimes, the treated skin will peel. This entire process usually takes about 2 weeks.

Wound Care for Treated Area(s):

1. Keep the area clean by washing with soap and water at least 2 times a day.
2. Pat the area dry, taking care not to break the blister.
3. In general, apply a thin layer of Petrolatum ointment (such as Aquaphor Healing Ointment, petroleum jelly) to the area, again, being careful not to disturb the blister.
4. Dressings are not needed, since there is no break in the skin or exposed area.

Occasionally, due to the location of the blister and its friction against clothing or bedding, the blister may break. If this break occurs while the blister contains fluid, expect this fluid to be thin, pinkish and clear. At this point, the tissue underneath may "weep". If this occurs, follow the wound care routine described above in #1 through #4, and then very loosely cover the area with a band-aid worn -- until the weeping has subsided.

Should the area become extra tender, continue to weep, or the drainage become thickened and/or yellowish, please notify the office and arrange to come in for an examination.

Some types of spots require more than one (1) liquid nitrogen treatment. If you were scheduled for only one treatment and the spot did not completely resolve, then you should call our office at (860) 245-0000 to be evaluated.

