



## *Cryosurgery*

- Liquid nitrogen is extremely cold (-320 degrees F). When applied to the skin, it causes rapid freezing and is used to destroy benign keratoses, warts, and pre-cancers.
- After treatment there may be some burning sensation or pain for a few minutes which can last up to 24 hours. This discomfort can be relieved with extra strength Tylenol or similar pain medications.
- The treated site and the surrounding area may swell within a few hours. It often looks like a mosquito bite. Areas frozen on the face may lead to eyelid and cheek swelling. This diminishes over several days.
- Within 24 to 48 hours a blister may form which may be filled with clear fluid or blood. Over the next several days it will subside and form a crust. Clean the area gently with a mild soap and water on a daily basis. Then pat dry and apply polysporin until healed. If a blister is painful you may chose to break it and allow the fluid to drain. Leave the broken skin in place to act as a natural band-aid.
- Once a crust forms it will take two to six weeks to fall off. Several crusts may form before the final crust comes off. Continue to apply polysporin to soften the crust and promote healing.
- Avoid the use of cosmetics on the treated site until healed if possible.
- Once the final crust comes off, the skin may be discolored but this often returns to normal after a few months. Occasionally, discoloration may be permanent.
- In some cases only a single treatment is needed. Warts and other thick growths often need multiple treatments.
- Call the office if signs of infection develop (yellow discharge, increased pain, swelling or redness after the first several days).

### ***For Questions or Emergency Care:***

Call the office at **601-815-3374**. You may need to speak with the doctor on-call.