

WARTS

Warts are harmless skin growths caused by a virus. Warts can grow on any part of the body. Their appearance depends on their location. On the face and tops of the hands warts are flat or protrude, while on pressure areas as the palms and soles they are pushed inward. Warts on the bottoms of the feet (called plantar warts) grow inward from the pressure of standing and walking and can be painful. Warts have a rough surface on which tiny dark specks can often be seen

Warts are common and can be a nuisance. They may bleed if injured. Warts never turn cancerous.

Since warts are caused by a virus, they are slightly contagious. Warts may spread on the same part of the body since a wart is the source of a virus that can seed other areas. We do not know why some persons get warts easily while others never get them. There is no way to prevent warts.

People have been trying to cure warts for thousands of years. The "success" of folk remedies for warts is due to the fact that warts usually disappear by themselves, especially in young children.

Treatment

There is no single perfect treatment of warts. Treatment consists of destroying the wart. Warts can be destroyed with surgery, by freezing with liquid nitrogen, or with chemicals. The treatment to be used on your warts depends on their location and size, your type of skin and what may have worked well in the past.

Sometimes new warts will form while existing ones are being destroyed. All we can do is treat the new warts when they become large enough to be seen.

No matter what treatment is used, warts occasionally fail to disappear. Warts may return weeks or months after an apparent cure. Do not become concerned if a wart recurs. Please make an appointment for a return visit. The treatment will be repeated, or a different method will be used to destroy the wart.

Tom Sawyer's Wart Removal Method

'You got to go all by yourself, to the middle of the woods, where you know there's a spunk-water stump, and just as it's midnight you back up against the stump and jam your hand in and say: "Barley-corn, Barley-corn, Injun-meal shorts, spunk-water, spunk-water, swaller these warts," and then walk away quick, eleven steps, with your eyes shut, and then turn around three times and walk home without speaking to anybody. 'cause if you speak the charm's busted.' - Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer