

Use of acids for plantar warts and other warts:

We commonly can treat plantar warts or warts located in other areas with different types of acid. The most common types of acid we use is Salicylic acid, Monochloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid or cantharidin.

These acids are designed to peel off layers of skin. When using the medication on a wart, the wart will shrink in size over time until it is gone. Usually, one performs debridement of as much of the dead, hard skin as possible, then applies the medication to the affected area and will use a band-aid to cover area. The skin may develop a blistering reaction depending on which type of acid used. The wart or part of the wart may lift off with removal of the band-aid. Multiple treatments may be necessary. Only a physician should administer the higher strength acid treatments and two-week to one- month treatments or follow up are typical to repeat the process until the lesion resolves.

You may experience some pain or discomfort. You may elevate the treated area and take an OTC pain medication such as Tylenol, Aleve, Motrin, or Advil; unless otherwise informed not to by another doctor.