

Wart Information Sheet

- Warts are contagious. They are caused by a skin virus and are spread by trauma, i.e. scratching, shaving, picking, biting, etc.
- There are various treatment options including freezing, surgery, acids, prescription cream (Aldara, etc.), lasers and **all** *are associated with a risk of recurrence.*
- Freezing is considered a form of surgery and so a surgical deductible may apply. Freezing frequently requires 2 or 3 visits, so follow up in 2 to 4 weeks is necessary.
- Combination therapy is sometimes needed if multiple warts are present or in stubborn cases.
- In rare cases, **no** treatment seems to work and surgical removal is considered at that point.
- Warts **can** spontaneously resolve, so no treatment can be considered in mild or early cases.
- **Very rarely** warts can lead to skin cancer, so any unusually large, stubborn warts may need to be biopsied and/or surgically removed.