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CRYOSURGERY – PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS

The response to cryosurgery (freezing) may vary from mild redness and swelling with minimal discomfort to significant discoloration with blister formation and considerable discomfort. This varied response depends on the depth of freeze and the area treated. Initial burning sensation in the skin may last from several minutes to several hours.

Follow these instructions when caring for an area treated by Cryosurgery:

MINOR RESPONSE

The area may be washed gently with soap and water.

Area may sting or burn for a short time after treatment.

Treated area will be red in color initially, then brown and flaky as the area heals and upper layer of skin sloughs.

Gently cleanse the area with soap & water. Pat dry and apply a thin film of antibiotic ointment, such as: Polysporin or Vaseline. You can do this twice a day.

If you experience any problems or have any questions, call the office at (813) 978-8888 Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

All treated areas usually heal within 3-4 weeks.

MAJOR RESPONSE

Follow instructions as stated for minor response.

Area may sting and burn for several hours after treatment

Throbbing and pain in the treatment site may occur and may be relieved by elevating the area.

Tylenol may be taken for discomfort every 3-4 hours.

A blister will form in the area of freezing. It may be filled with clear fluid or occasionally blood. This is not unusual.

Do not break blister unless it becomes uncomfortable. You may prick the blister with a sterile needle or pin to remove fluid. Leave skin intact.

Cleanse twice a day with soap and water and apply antibiotic ointment to prevent infection and thick scab formation.