

Use of Mediplast® for Warts

The doctor would like you to use Mediplast® for your child's warts. Mediplast® is a plaster that is soaked with 40% salicylic acid. When wearing the plaster, the acid slowly and with no pain leaks out onto the skin below. This kills the skin cells that hold the wart virus. This is the best way of getting rid of warts. **Even if another treatment is being used (for instance, the pulsed dye laser), using this plaster speeds the process of thinning the wart and any callus that has formed around it.**

Where do I get it?

Mediplast® does not need to be prescribed. You can find it at any local drugstore. Often, you will need to ask the pharmacist for the product. It may be kept behind the counter instead of on the shelves. If they do not have any Mediplast®, ask them to order it for you. You may wish to call ahead to see if it is in stock.

How do I use it?

Mediplast® comes as a sheet, wrapped in paper. When you remove the sheet from the wrapper, you will notice that one side is fuzzy and the other is paper. Cut a circle just slightly bigger than your child's wart, remove the paper backing, and place the sticky side down on the skin. If there are a group of warts, cover the entire area with a larger piece of Mediplast®. You should then take a sturdy, water-resistant tape, such as

duct tape, and wrap around the toe, foot, finger, etc. You can also use black electric tape if the warts are on the toes or fingers. This tape is thinner and slightly stretchy. You can use trainer or athletic tape, but it tends to get soggy after showers.

Apply the Mediplast® and tape on Monday morning and leave it in place until Friday afternoon or night. You can shower and if the tape falls off, you can use the original Mediplast® piece and just replace the tape. Although the package says to change the Mediplast® daily, it works best if left in place for 4 to 5 days. You may shorten the treatment to 3 days if it causes irritation. When you remove the plaster, the skin below will be white and soft. File the area of white, soft skin with a nail file or a pumice stone until all the white, dead skin is removed or until it is painful. These files can be bought in the nail care aisle at the drug or grocery store. Sometime over the weekend, soak the wart in warm water for 5-10 minutes and repeat the same filing process as described above.

Monday morning, re-apply a new piece of Mediplast® covered with tape. Repeat the process for the next week. Do this weekly until your next visit, or until the wart is gone. Follow up in Pediatric Dermatology in 4 weeks or as instructed to check your progress.

UW Dermatology Department
1 S. Park St 7th Floor
Madison, WI 53715
Clinic: **(608) 287-2450**

American Family Children's
Hospital
Pediatric Dermatology
Specialty Clinic
1675 Highland Ave.
Madison, WI 53792
Clinic: **(608) 263-6420**

UW Dermatology-West
Clinic
Lower Level
451 Junction Rd.
Madison, WI 53717
Clinic: **(608) 265-0700**

If you are a patient receiving care at UnityPoint – Meriter, Swedish American or a health system outside of UW Health, please use the phone numbers provided in your discharge instructions for any questions or concerns.

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright © 8/2019. University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#6498