

Warts

Overview

Warts are small, rough bumps that appear on the skin. They are caused by a virus called the human papillomavirus (HPV), which enters the skin through tiny cuts or scratches. Warts are common in children and can show up on the hands, feet, or other parts of the body. While warts are usually harmless, they can be annoying or embarrassing. The good news is that they can be treated and removed.

Symptoms

Children with warts may notice:

- Small, grainy bumps that feel rough to the touch
- Bumps that may have black dots in them (these are small, clotted blood vessels)
- Flat or smooth warts that blend in with the skin
- Warts that are hard and may cause discomfort, especially on the feet (called plantar warts)
- Warts that grow in clusters or spread to other parts of the body

Causes

Warts are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). The virus spreads through direct contact with the wart or by touching something that has been in contact with a wart, like towels or surfaces. Warts are more likely to appear if the skin is broken or moist, and they can spread easily in places like swimming pools or gyms.

Diagnosis

Diagnosing warts is usually simple and involves:

- A quick look at the bump by a doctor to confirm it's a wart
- Sometimes, a doctor may use a small tool to scrape the surface of the wart to check for tiny black dots, which are a sign of a wart
- Rarely, a small sample may be taken for further examination if the wart looks unusual

Treatment Options

At Gertrude's Children's Hospital, we offer several ways to treat and remove warts, including:

- **Topical treatments:** Special creams or liquids that are applied to the wart to slowly dissolve it
- **Cryotherapy:** Freezing the wart with liquid nitrogen to remove it
- **Minor surgery:** Cutting or scraping the wart off, usually for stubborn or large warts
- **Laser treatment:** Using a laser to burn away the wart, often used for warts that are hard to treat with other methods
- **Education and prevention tips:** Advice on how to prevent warts from spreading or coming back



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Why Choose Us

At Gertrude's Children's Hospital, we focus on providing gentle and effective care for children with warts. We offer:

- **Experienced dermatologists:** Skilled in treating warts in children, using the latest methods
- **Comfort-focused care:** We make sure the treatment is as painless and stress-free as possible
- **Personalized treatment plans:** Tailored to your child's needs, whether they have a single wart or multiple ones
- **Preventive advice:** Guidance on how to keep warts from spreading and how to protect other family members

Patient Success Stories

"My son had several warts on his hands that made him feel self-conscious at school. The team at Gertrude's Children's Hospital was wonderful. They treated his warts quickly and gave us tips on how to prevent them in the future. He's so happy to have smooth skin again!" - Lucy, parent of a child with warts

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Are warts contagious?

A: Yes, warts can spread from person to person through direct contact or by sharing items like towels or shoes. It's important to avoid picking at warts or touching them unnecessarily.

Q: Will warts go away on their own?

A: Some warts may go away on their own over time, but this can take months or even years. Treatment can help remove them faster.

Q: Can warts come back after treatment?

A: Yes, warts can come back after treatment, especially if the virus is still present. Following preventive tips can help reduce the chances of them returning.

Call-to-Action

If your child has warts and you'd like to explore treatment options, our pediatric dermatology clinic is here to help. Schedule an appointment with us for expert care and advice.

Contact us today to learn more about our wart treatment services.

Phone: [Phone Number]

Email: info@gertrudeschildrenshospital.org

Online Scheduling: www.gertieschildrenshospital.org/schedule-an-appointment



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