

LIQUID NITROGEN TREATMENT

Liquid nitrogen is a natural substance. In fact, 80% of the air we breathe is nitrogen. Dermatologists use the liquid form of nitrogen which is almost 200 degrees below zero. Liquid nitrogen is applied with a spray apparatus or cotton swab until freezing occurs throughout the lesion and a little of the tissue around it.

You may expect some pain during the treatment and for a short time afterward. Tylenol will relieve the pain. A blister may form within a few hours. This may be filled with a clear fluid or blood. It is best to leave the blister alone and allow it to dry. However, if you have a great deal of discomfort, you may prick the edge of the blister with a sterilized needle to relieve the pressure. It is also advisable to leave the blister uncovered, but a loose dressing may be applied for a short period to keep the blister from being rubbed or scratched. The blister will heal much like a small burn, drying in about two weeks. The skin underneath will initially be red or purplish. This will fade in time.

At times, the treated area may turn darker or lighter than your normal skin color. Usually the color improves over several weeks. If the color change persists for greater than 6-8 weeks, and is of concern, please notify Dr. Badame for possible treatment.