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CRYOSURGERY (ACTINIC KERATOSIS AND/OR SEBORRHEIC KERATOSIS)

1. You were treated with liquid nitrogen, which produces a cold induced injury by rapid freezing of the skin. The area and surrounding tissues may swell within an hour and be accompanied by a throbbing pain. In rare instances, a blister or blood-filled blister may develop. For a few days, the area treated and surrounding skin may ooze, but within one week, the swelling will diminish and the skin will appear pink but eventually return to normal. Cryosurgery causes less scar formation and less post-operative infection than other methods of treatment. Depigmentation and prolonged redness may occur, but both problems are usually reversible.
2. Slight weeping or crusting will appear for 3-4 days. Keep the area clean with soap and water. It is permissible to shower or swim. Dry the treatment site gently with a towel and cover with a thin coat of an antibiotic ointment. If more comfortable or in areas of friction, cover loosely with a bandaid, however this is not necessary.
3. If you fail to gain relief from the above recommendations, or experience any additional problem, please feel free to contact the office for advice.
4. Be certain to keep your follow-up appointment to insure resolution of the problem or to have the area re-treated by this or other modalities.

*ACCEPTABLE TOPICAL ANTIBIOTICS: Mycitracin, Polysporin, Bacitracin