

CANTHARONE - “BEETLEJUICE” FOR THE TREATMENT OF MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM

ABOUT

Molluscum contagiosum is a common viral skin infection primarily found on children. They present as firm, smooth, round papules and are usually asymptomatic unless irritated or inflamed. Although the contagious virus primarily affects children, it can also be spread through sexual contact in adults. In addition, the virus can spread to other parts of the body by scratching or picking and to other people by sharing personal products (towels, bars of soap, bath tub, etc.). If left untreated, individual molluscum lesions usually resolve. However, this may take months or years and the lesions may spread on the skin or to others during that time.

PROCEDURE & EXPECTATIONS

Cantharone is painlessly applied to each molluscum using a wood-tip applicator. The skin is to be cleansed with soap and water 30-60 minutes after application or once it begins to blister.

Some discomfort, the day of and for a few days after, is to be expected, and Tylenol or Motrin can be taken to alleviate this. It is also helpful to apply a healing ointment (Vaseline, Aquaphor, Neosporin, polysporin, bacitracin, etc.) and gauze/bandage if any of the lesions are in any areas that could be easily irritated by clothing.

Often, multiple treatments are necessary. New lesions may continue to appear until all of the molluscum have been eliminated.

FOLLOW UP

Please schedule a follow up appointment with your provider every 3-4 weeks until no lesions remain.

RISKS

Blister formation
Hypopigmentation
Discomfort