



# REVIVAL DERMATOLOGY

## Post Procedure Instructions

### MOLLUSCUM CONTAGIOSUM

Molluscum contagiosum are wart-like viral infection of the skin. They most commonly occur in young children, especially those with a tendency towards eczema or dry, sensitive skin. While they will eventually resolve with time, this can take weeks, months or sometimes even years. While generally leaving no mark after they clear, Molluscum can leave pox like scars. They can also be spread to other parts of the body, especially by scratching, or to other children if sharing a bath or while swimming. This virus grows best on a disrupted skin barrier, so there are certain cleansers and moisturizers that can help reduce the viral load. CLn BodyWash is recommended for cleansing Molluscum-infected skin and smothering the skin with a rich moisturizer like Cerave or Cetaphil cream twice daily is also recommended.

- Dr Pruett has applied cantharadin, or “blister beetle juice” to your Molluscum. This medicine is generally non-irritating and does not cause scarring.
- You will need to wash the medicine off in 1 hour.
- Over the next 4-12 hours, you may experience mild discomfort and stinging. You may take Tylenol or Ibuprofen for this.
- In the next 4-24 hours, a blister will occur around the Molluscum. This will peel off after 4 days and kills the virus. Sometimes only a crust may form without a blister. If the blisters are uncomfortable, clean a needle with rubbing alcohol, gently drain the blister and leave the roof in place. After the blister breaks, clean with soap and water daily. You may want to cover the area with a bandage.
- In 4-7 days the area will be healed. There may be some residual redness that will clear over time. Often a dark spot will be left over the area treated. This is a normal reaction to healing and not a scar. It will resolve over 1-2 months.
- Retreatment is often required every month until all Molluscum are cleared. Most lesions treated will clear with one treatment, although some require more than one treatment. What we cannot treat is Molluscum that is in the skin but hasn't erupted yet. It often can take multiple monthly visits to slowly eliminate all of the virus.

