

Wart Removal Using 1.5ms Pulsed Nd:YAG 1064nm Laser

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Background & Objective

Female patient presented with well-developed warts involving the nails and surrounding tissue of the fourth and fifth digits of the right hand. The patient reported having tried topicals with no success, and several months prior to laser, had warts frozen without any improvement. The laser to be used is an Nd:YAG 1064nm laser (LightPod Neo by Aerolase, Tarrytown, NY) which generates extremely high fluence in a uniquely short 1.5 millisecond pulse duration. The laser has a high affinity for hemoglobin and is intended to destroy the vessels feeding the wart.

Materials & Methods

Tissue was thoroughly cleansed and dried prior to treatment. No anesthetic was used; however, the area was cooled with an ice pack for 2-3 minutes prior to treatment and periodically throughout the treatment as needed. The area of treatment was de-bulked and trimmed away prior to presenting for the first treatment in order to maximize energy penetration into the underlying lesion.

The lesion was treated using the 2mm spot size at a pulse width of 1.5 milliseconds and an Energy mode of 8 (fluence of 255 J/cm²). Two passes were applied using adjacent pulses across the surface of the wart, and a ring of pulses were applied around the periphery at the edge of healthy skin tissue surrounding the wart. To ensure patient comfort, periodic pauses were made as needed in order to cool the affected tissue using an ice pack.

The warts were treated and a 2nd treatment was scheduled for 1 month, however, due to the patient's inability to make the 2nd appointment, it did not take place until 56 days after the initial treatment. At that time, the same protocol was used for the 2nd treatment.

Results

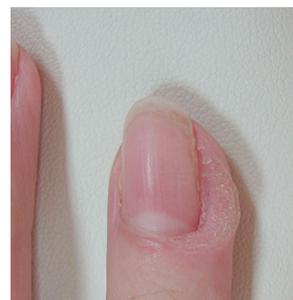
Pictures were taken before each treatment and then again 5 months after the 2nd treatment. The patient tolerated each treatment well, as long as periodic cooling with ice packs was done. She reported no complications and only mild discomfort for a couple of hours post treatment. The patient was extremely satisfied with the results and reported that this was the only treatment that had any effect on the warts.



Before



5 months after 2nd Tx



Before



5 months after 2nd Tx