



A guide to treating warts and verrucas

Salatac Gel - waterproof therapy

Salicylic acid 12.0%, lactic acid 4.0%

Easy to use, once a day...

Complete treatment kit with special nozzle and emery board

...painless, plaster-less therapy.

Dries to form a waterproof barrier over the wart/verruca painlessly



Salactol Paint - an economical solution

Salicylic acid 16.7%, lactic acid 16.7%

Economical, keratolytic, once daily treatment for warts, verrucas, corns and calluses



Both products are available to purchase in pharmacies.

See inside for further information about warts and verrucas ►

Warts and Verrucas

Most of us will get a wart or verruca at least once in our life, usually before the age of 20.¹ Nearly half wait at least three months before taking any action.¹ This can make them harder to get rid of and painful to touch, so identifying and treating them promptly is important.

Warts and verrucas are caused by infection with the human papilloma virus (HPV). HPV causes too much keratin, a hard protein in the top layer of the skin (the epidermis) to be produced. This produces the rough, hard texture of a verruca or wart. Warts are contagious, but not everyone will be affected by them in the same way.

Kind therapy...not cry therapy

Freeze sprays, or cryotherapy, freeze the skin and surrounding areas, causing the virus to be inactivated and the skin to blister before healing.

Topical salicylic acid treatment is as effective as cryotherapy² without the pain, blistering, infection, scarring, and depigmentation.³

Paints and Gels containing salicylic acid are designed to be applied directly to the wart or verruca and they help to break down and loosen the hardened skin (keratolytic action).

Lactic acid has antiseptic properties and also increases the availability of salicylic acid. Whilst these treatments are usually painless, irritation can occur if applied to unaffected skin, so it is important to only apply the treatment to the wart or verruca.

Ease of application and patient compliance are essential for the success of any topical wart treatment.



There are 2 Dermal wart and verruca treatments available for kind and effective therapy.

Warts on the hand

- 1mm to 1cm in diameter.
- Caused by the HPV virus which causes skin cells to grow quickly.
- Small, skin coloured, excess growths of skin often with a 'cauliflower-like' appearance on the surface.
- May be singular or form in clusters.
- Warts are transmitted through direct contact. Avoid picking or biting warts to prevent further spread to other areas of skin.



Verrucas on the foot

- On the sole of the foot, most commonly on ball of foot.
- Caused by the HPV virus which causes skin cells to grow quickly.
- Appear as areas of flat, thickened skin with a hardened 'collar' surrounding the lesion.
- Rough surface, may have black dot in the middle.
- From 1mm to over 1cm in diameter.
- May be singular or form in clusters (mosaic verrucas).
- Avoid sharing shoes, socks or towels to prevent transmission to others.
- Sandals or flip-flops should be worn in communal showering areas, such as at the pool or the gym to avoid transmission to others.

Treatment advice for Salatac Gel and Salactol

- Always read the leaflet carefully before use.
- Once every day, usually in the evening, soak wart or verruca in warm water and pat dry before applying the treatment.
- Be careful to place treatments directly onto the wart or verruca and avoid surrounding skin.

If using Salatac Gel

- The gel dries to form a waterproof barrier over the wart/verruca painlessly.
- **Once a week**, before applying the treatment, gently use an emery board or pumice stone to remove rough skin.

If using Salactol

- **Daily**, before applying the treatment, gently rub the surface of the wart, verruca, corn or callus with a pumice stone or manicure emery board to remove any hard skin.
- A plaster may be needed to cover the area to avoid transmission to others.

General advice

- There is no reason why those with warts or verrucas shouldn't take part in activities such as sports or swimming. If treatment doesn't form a waterproof barrier over the wart, then a plaster may be needed to cover the area to avoid transmission to others.
- Do not pick out black dots. This is blood which can contain HPV and may cause warts or verrucas to spread.
- Avoid direct contact with warts on other people or on other parts of the body.
- Do not let anyone else use your emery board or pumice stone.

Salatac™ Gel

Salicylic acid 12.0% w/w, lactic acid 4.0% w/w.

Salactol™ Collodion

Salicylic acid 16.7% w/w, lactic acid 16.7% w/w.

Uses: For the topical treatment of warts, verrucae, corns and calluses.

Directions: Adults, children and the elderly: Apply once daily until the wart, verruca, corn or callus has disappeared (treatment may take up to 12 weeks). Soak the affected area in warm water for 2-3 minutes and dry with patient's own towel. Carefully apply one or two drops to the lesion avoiding the surrounding skin. (For Salatac, peel off the previous day's gel before reapplying). Every week gently rub away the treated surface (daily for Salactol) with an emery board to remove any hard skin before application. (For Salactol, plantar warts should be covered with an adhesive plaster).

Contra-indications, warnings, side effects etc: Please refer to SPC for full details before prescribing. Do not use if sensitive to any of the ingredients. Not to be used on or near the face, intertriginous or anogenital regions, or by diabetics or individuals with impaired peripheral blood circulation. Not to be used on moles or on any other skin lesions for which it is not indicated. Keep away from the eyes, mucous membranes and from cuts and grazes. Some mild, transient irritation may be expected, but in cases of more severe or persistent pain/irritation, the treatment should be suspended or discontinued. Highly flammable, keep away from flames. Avoid inhaling vapour.

Package quantities, trade prices and MA numbers:

Salatac Gel: 8g tube with applicator. €6.22, PA23128/007/001.

Salactol Collodion: 10ml amber glass bottle with applicator. €4.27, PA23128/003/001.

Legal category: Supply through pharmacy only.

Further information is available from: Dermal Laboratories (Ireland) Ltd, Head Office Tatmore Place, Gosmore, Hitchin, Herts SG4 7QR, UK.

Date of preparation: October 2023.

'Salatac' and 'Salactol' are trademarks.

Adverse events should be reported. Reporting forms and information can be found at www.hpra.ie. Adverse events should also be reported to Dermal.

References: 1. NEMS Omnibus April 2011. 2. Cockayne *et al.* Cryotherapy versus salicylic acid for the treatment of plantar warts (verrucae): a randomised controlled trial. *BMJ* 2011;342:d3271 doi:10.1136/bmj.d3271. 3. NICE. Clinical Knowledge Summaries Warts and Verrucae. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; 2020. Available from: <https://cks.nice.org.uk/topics/warts-verrucae> [Accessed 25/09/2023].



DERMAL
TOPICAL INNOVATION

www.dermal.ie