

WARTS PARENT FACT SHEET

PARENT/GUARDIAN

Your child may have been exposed to: WARTS

Warts are skin growths caused by a virus. Common and flat warts are seen most often in younger children while plantar warts are seen more often in school-aged children.

- Tell your childcare provider or call the school.

Symptoms

- Common - Dome-shaped and have a rough appearance. They usually grow on the fingers, on the backs of the hands, and around the nails but may be more common where skin is broken (e.g., bitten fingernails or picked hangnails). Black dots in a wart are produced by broken blood vessels.
- Plantar (foot) - Usually seen on the bottoms of the feet. Most of these warts flatten because the pressure of walking pushes them back into the skin. They can be very painful. They may also have black dots.
- Flat - Smaller and smoother than other warts. They tend to grow in large numbers (20 to 100) at a time and can grow anywhere. However, in children they are most common on the face. They are found in the beard area of men and on the legs of women.
- If your child is infected, it may take several months to years before symptoms start.

Spread

- From person-to-person.
- By touching contaminated objects, such as locker room floors, showers or pool decks.

Contagious Period Probably as long as the wart is present.

Call your Healthcare Provider Your provider will decide if treatment is needed.

Prevention

- Avoid biting your nails or picking your hangnails. Keep nails trimmed.
- Take care to keep feet and hands clean and dry. Do basic first aid when an injury (cut, scrape, etc.) occurs.
- Wear shoes like flip-flops or water sandals in locker rooms and showers or on pool decks.
- Avoid sharing personal items such as razors.
- Clean and disinfect contaminated areas. Use a product that kills germs.

For more information, please contact your local health department.

[Southern Nevada Health District](#) (Clark County) 775-759-1300 (24 hours)

[Northern Nevada Public Health](#) (Washoe County) 775-328-2447 (24 hours)

[Carson City Health & Human Services](#) (Carson City, Douglas, Lyon Counties) 775-887-2190 (24 hours)

[Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#) (All other Counties) 775-400-0333 (24 hours)

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