

Example of GPs script:

Patient contribution

What would you like to talk about today?

Was there anything else you'd like to raise while you're here?

Nothing?

You got any of there anywhere else?

ICE

And you wondered if it was a wart?

Yeah, so maybe a wart, anything else on your mind?

Worst case scenario with this little fella on your skin?

Oh okay so we need to rule that one out.

PSO

Are you a smoker?

Because that can influence how healthy your skin is as well. Do you want any help with that?

What triggers you to start again?

Right, were you drinking at the same time? Is drinking an issue?

No? Alright.

What made you pack in three times?

Expense. Health a concern at all?

So enough reasons to stop.

Red flags

Nothing in the family skin wise?

Nothing worrying? No cancers of the skin or anything like that?

You're not particularly prone to sun damage of your skin or anything like that?

Focussed history

But it has been a bit sore this week?

Getting bigger or staying about the same now?

Focussed examination

It looks warty doesn't it. I'm going to have a closer look with my little hand lens.

They can do. You've given it a bit of a squeeze yourself have you?

Don't mind if i have a bit of a pick at it?

It doesn't look sinister and it does look quite warty. There's no ulceration erm, apart from just where you've been picking at it, so it doesn't look like a worrying one at all.

Erm but it's obviously very apparent with it being on your face.

Six millimetres in diameter, nice and round. Okay, doesn't look like a worrying thing.

Identify problem and explain diagnosis

The one on your arm is called a seborrheic wart which is down to ageing of the skin and sun damage often. This one on your face could be caused by something similar potentially or it could be a viral wart. You're right about them potentially spreading as well.

Check understanding

That all make sense?

Develops management plan / shares management plan

We could always take it off again for you if you'd like.

We could safely leave it alone and just watch it and see what happens or we could scrape it off and confirm that it is what you're thinking it is and we could scrape off the other thing at the same time.

So I could do that in the surgery for you. I don't think it's an urgent thing to do.

Erm, but sometimes with wart treatments, usually with wart treatments unfortunately they tend to come back in the long term so I don't know how long we are going to keep it away for by treating it to be fair but I guess what we are trying to do is confirm the diagnosis for you more than anything else. So no guarantee is a benefit with this treatment in the long term, and it can scar obviously. Would you be happy for us to do that?

Now because I don't think its skin cancer and there's nothing suggesting skin cancer we're not going to do that urgently and because we are adapting the surgery at the moment its going to be a little bit of a wait before you have that done. P: Right.

But otherwise I'll put you on for a routine curettage scrape of that wart and we will do that with the other one at the same time.

Using a local anaesthetic and just a sharp blade.

It'll leave a scab. the scab will usually heal over theres a risk of it becoming infected, risk of bleeding obviously after that and a risk of scarring.

Safety net and follow up

If it's getting bigger quickly or becoming ulcerated off its own accord rather than just because you're picking at it then potentially we might need to see you sooner if that's happening.

So if it's getting bigger quickly get in touch with me on the phone and we will try and reprioritise this.

If you've not heard anything within let's say two months of being on the waiting list to have that done, we normally do it at the end of a morning surgery, it's very straight forward to do but if theres changes that make you worried or me worried, so spontaneous ulceration, getting much bigger...

P: Or getting bigger, or if it spreads.

D: ...and if it spreads, exactly yeah. Okay well we can scrape it off at the same time if you'd like that doing just because we are doing the other thing as well. You're down for an asthma review so if you want to make an appointment to see my asthma nurse that would be great.

Yeah if you've not heard anything with in a couple of months let me know but we will see you urgently if it's changing.