Client Information for Informed Consent
Destruction of Genital Warts by Cryotherapy

What is destruction of genital warts by cryotherapy?
Cryotherapy is a medical procedure that involves the utilization of extreme cold to destroy any abnormal growth on the skin. Cryotherapy (cryosurgery) destroys genital warts by freezing them with liquid nitrogen. The super-cooled fluid is sprayed onto the warts. A blister then starts to form around the treated wart. After a few days, the wound heals. Both the blister and the wart then fall off. It often takes more than one cryotherapy session to completely eliminate all of the genital warts. Cryotherapy is considered one of the most effective treatments for genital warts. This procedure can only be done at a doctor’s office.

How will destruction of genital warts by cryotherapy be done?
- Your doctor applies liquid nitrogen to and around the warts.
- First, the tissue is frozen with liquid nitrogen. Then, the tissue is allowed to thaw. The tissue is frozen again, if needed. The time of application varies by the doctor who applies the liquid nitrogen and the size of the warts.

What does it feel like to have destruction of genital warts by cryotherapy?
You may have a mild to moderate burning sensation during the treatment.

The medicine we give helps most women. If you need more medicine, we will discuss which options may work best for you.

Tell us if you have any past or current medical problems or concerns.

What are the benefits of destruction of genital warts by cryotherapy?
Cryotherapy is considered a fairly inexpensive and highly successful therapy.
The effects of cryotherapy are local, which make cryotherapy an option for pregnant women.

What are the side effects of destruction of genital warts by cryotherapy?
There are few complications after destruction of genital warts by cryotherapy. Scarring is a slight risk.
The number and severity of side effects depend on the number of times the liquid nitrogen is applied during cryotherapy and how large an area was treated.
It’s important that you understand the risks, benefits, and side effects of cryotherapy. We are happy to answer your questions.

Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties
700 South Tustin Street
Orange, CA 92866

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER
ORANGE 714.922.4122 | SAN BERNARDINO 909.915.2076

Signature of Patient ____________________________________________  Date _____________

I witness the patient received this information, said she read and understood it, and had an opportunity to ask questions.

Signature of Witness ____________________________________________  Date _____________