

Generic press release

(Insert logo of University/Trust)

Media Information

DATE (insert date)

REFERENCE (insert reference)

University puts Verrucae on trial

Podiatry lecturer/Podiatrist/health care professional (name of podiatrist/health care professional) at (name of site) has announced the launch of a new clinical trial that will investigate solutions to the irritating and painful problem of verrucae.

The collaboration between (name of site) and the York Trials Unit at The University of York, UK will investigate which of two common treatments for verrucae - freezing with liquid nitrogen or an acid paste - is the most effective in terms of results and cost.

Patients volunteering to take part in the trial will be treated by qualified Podiatrists at (name of site), while researchers at The University of York will analyse the data.

Verrucae are a common viral infection and can be a painful problem. Although most will disappear eventually without treatment, patients often seek help if their verruca is painful or if they are prevented from doing sport.

There are many different ways to treat verrucae but it is unclear which treatment is best. Since verrucae are seen as a minor condition, few clinical trials have been funded into the best solutions for them.

(Name of podiatrist/health care professional) says: "We hope to study 266 patients in total and want to hear from people aged 12 years and over who have a verruca and are interested in taking part in the trial."

Patients will be asked to help for six months, but the treatments will only last for a maximum of eight weeks. Half of the patients will be asked to treat themselves daily with the acid paste, as directed by the (Podiatrist/health care professional), up to a maximum of eight weeks.

The other half will be treated with the freezing technique, applied by a (Podiatrist/health care professional), with re-treatment at follow-up appointments if required. Participants will also be asked about any side effects they experience and their satisfaction with their treatment.

(Name of podiatrist/health care professional) continues: "The information we get from this study should help us to treat future patients with verrucae more effectively."

If you are interested in taking part you should ring (insert clinic contact details and telephone number) you will be assessed in order to see if you are eligible for the study. The treatment provided will be free of charge.

-ends-

Notes for editors:

- (Local note to editors about the university. For example for Northampton University: The University of Northampton is dedicated to high quality higher education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, through taught courses and research. As Northamptonshire's only dedicated higher education institution, it is committed to the transfer of knowledge and technology to the community and aims to contribute to the cultural development of the region)
- This project is funded by the NHS R&D Programme Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme (Project No. 05/513/02), and the results will be used to inform clinical practice within the NHS. The study has been reviewed and approved by Trent Multi Research Ethics Committee (UK). The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Health (UK).

Details of press release officer

SECOND PRESS RELEASE

(Insert logo of University/Trust)

Press Release

For immediate release

Media Information: Press Office (insert Press Office telephone number)

Patients wanted to put best foot forward

More patients are needed to join a clinical trial in the (name of town/city) area aimed at cutting the £40 million a year cost to the NHS of treating warts and verrucas.

Researchers at the University of York have been conducting the trial in (town/city) as part of a major study to establish the most effective solution for dealing with this irritating and painful problem.

The initial trial, aimed at establishing the most effective treatment for verrucas, was restricted to patients aged between 12 and 24, but now the study has been extended to include any patient aged over 12 years old.

Almost two million people see their GP about verrucas and warts each year, costing the NHS at least £40 million.

The York Trials Unit, in the University's Department of Health Sciences, has been working with health professionals in (name of town/city) to investigate which of two common treatments for verrucas - freezing with liquid nitrogen or an acid paste - is the most effective in terms of results and cost.

(Name of Trial co-ordinator/Principal Investigator) said: "The response from patients in (name of town/city) has been great, but now our funders, the Health Technology Assessment Programme, have agreed that we can extend the trial to any patient over the age of 12. So we're looking for about 40 more patients from the (name of town/city) area to help us with the study. People interested in taking part should contact (name of podiatrist/health care professional) at (name of site) on (site telephone number)."

Patients will be asked to help for six months but the treatments will only last for a maximum of eight weeks. Half the patients will be asked to treat themselves daily with the acid paste, as directed, up to a maximum of eight weeks.

The other half will be treated with the freezing technique, applied by a podiatrist or health care professional, with re-treatment at follow-up appointments if required. Participants will be asked to fill in five questionnaires to find out about any side effects they experience and their satisfaction with their treatment

Volunteers will be assessed in order to see if they are eligible for the study and will need to attend the clinic for up to four additional appointments. Set travel expenses will be paid. The treatment provided will be free of charge.

ENDS

Notes for Editors:

- This project is funded by the NHS R&D Programme Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme (Project No. 05/513/02), and the results will be used to inform clinical practice within the NHS. The study has been reviewed and approved by Trent Multi Research Ethics Committee. The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Health.
- (University of York note may be included if appropriate: The Department of Health Sciences at the University of York is a large multi-disciplinary department, offering a broad range of taught and research programmes in the health care field, including nursing. It aims to develop the role of scientific evidence in health and health care through high quality research, teaching and other forms of dissemination).
- (If a recruiting site is situated in another university, an additional note about that university may be included. For example, for Northampton University: The University of Northampton is dedicated to high quality higher education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, through taught courses and research. As Northamptonshire's only dedicated higher education institution, it is committed to the transfer of knowledge and technology to the community and aims to contribute to the cultural development of the region).

SHORT PRESS RELEASE

**(Insert
logo of University/Trust)**

Media Information

DATE (insert date)

REFERENCE (insert reference)

(Name of University/Trust) puts Verrucae on trial

(Name of Podiatry lecturer/Podiatrist/health care professional/Principal Investigator) at (name of site) is seeking patients to take part in a clinical trial that will investigate solutions to the irritating and painful problem of verrucae. (He/she) says “We want to hear from people aged 12 and over who have a verruca and are interested in taking part in the trial.”

Patients will be asked to help for six months, but the treatments will only last for a maximum of eight weeks. Half of the patients will be asked to treat themselves daily with an acid paste, up to a maximum of eight weeks. The other half will be treated with a freezing technique, applied by a podiatrist/other healthcare professional, with re-treatment at follow-up appointments if required.

If you are interested in taking part you should ring (name of clinic/site) on telephone number (insert number) and ask for (contact name). You will be assessed in order to see if you are eligible for the study. The treatment provided will be free of charge.

This project is funded by the NHS R&D Programme HTA Programme Project number 05/513/02. The views and opinions expressed therein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Health.