

Figure 1. Frostbite secondary to cryotherapy treatment.



Figure 2. Frostbite secondary to cryotherapy treatment.



Figure 3. Frostbite secondary to cryotherapy treatment.

dermis) were debrided to healthy dermis, cleaned with an iodine-based antimicrobial agent, and dressed with burn dressings. After this procedure, the patient felt instant relief of his symptoms and was discharged home with analgesia. He was seen in our outpatient burns dressing clinic where the wounds continued to heal well.

Cryotherapy is a well-established treatment for viral warts with many procedures carried out in primary care. While freezing the lesion is the intended mechanism of treatment, freezing the lesion for prolonged periods or too close to the lesion is likely to cause deep burns that extend over a larger surface area than the initial lesion. Care must be exercised when using such devices and correct instructions followed. Despite being a common tool for treatment of benign lesions, the patient ought to be made fully aware of all side effects associated with such treatment so that informed consent is given. Despite being provided with an information sheet on cryotherapy both the patient and his mother felt (retrospectively) that this provided inadequate information about what to expect.

Additionally, although the patient reported being asked by his GP if he consented to both hands being treated on the same admission, we would not advise this given the limitations this may have on activities of daily living.

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Corrections

The no-difference line in Figure 2 and the y-axis were incorrectly published in an article from the February 2013 issue of the journal: Martin, et al. Inter-arm blood pressure differences compared with ambulatory monitoring: a manifestation of the 'white-coat' effect? Br J Gen Pract 2013; DOI: 10.3399/ bjgp13X663055. The correct figure will be available online. We apologise for these errors.

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The author Liz Mitchell has been changed to Elizabeth D Mitchell in the November 2011 issue: Browne et al. Patients' needs following colorectal cancer diagnosis: where does primary care fit in? Br J Gen Pract 2011; DOI: 10.3399/bjgp11X606582. The updated version of this article will be available

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