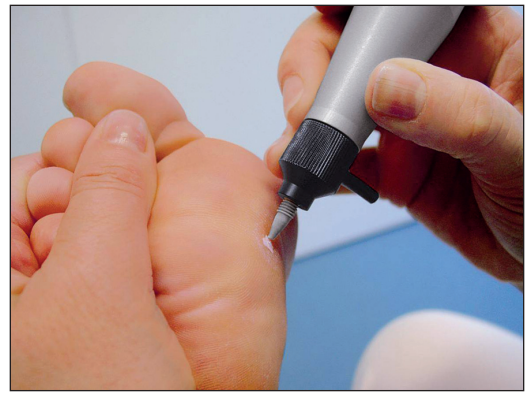
CryoProbe™: The Hottest New Cold Product in Podiatry

By Adina Freedman



CryoProbe™

The **CryoProbe**™ is the most innovative technological advance in cryosurgery on the market today. This pen-like instrument delivers a fine pinpoint spray of liquid nitrous oxide at a constant temperature of minus (-)127 degrees F under 725 PSI to the tissue with precise accuracy, penetrating the lesion being treated at 1mm per 5 seconds. The maximum penetration depth is 5mm. Deeper penetration is prevented because an ice barrier forms, preventing penetration beyond 5mm, eliminating the danger of excessive tissue damage. This direct method of spraying the lesion with refrigerant far exceeds results achieved by indirect application. Indirect methods apply the refrigerant to a cotton swab, treatment bud or metal tip which loses some of its freezing capacity as soon as it comes in contact with the tissue.

The CryoProbe™ uses economical disposable cartridges consisting of a mixture of nitrous oxide gas and nitrous oxide liquid. A fresh cartridge should be used for each patient but multiple lesions on the same patient can be treated with the same cartridge.

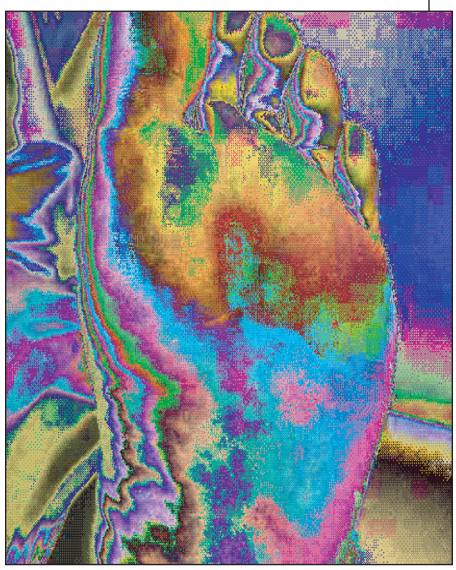
One of two applicator tips can be used to direct the liquid nitrous oxide stream to the tissue being treated. The black applicator tip has a 35 micron channel delivering the finest stream of N2O liquid and will permit approximately 2 minutes of use from one cartridge. The beige tip has a 70 micron channel affording about 1 minute of treatment time with a wider spray to cover a larger area of the lesion. Both tips are included with the unit.

The CryoProbe™ destroys tissue by freezing the intracellular fluid and forming ice shards and crystals which rupture the cell membrane, destroying the cell. The essential factor of effectively necrotizing tissue is not based solely on how low the tissue temperature drops but also how rapidly this occurs.

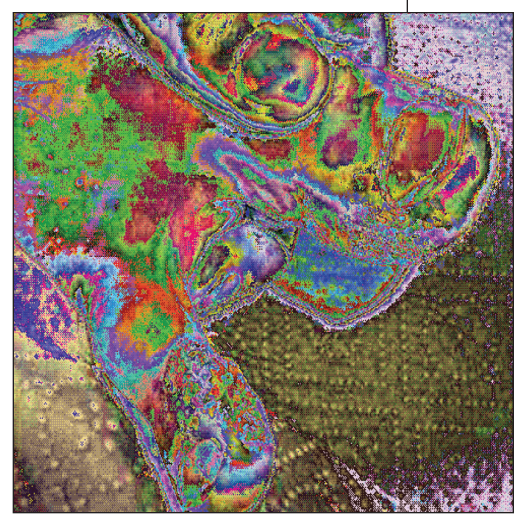
Utilizing this technology is extremely useful and effective in the practice of podiatric medicine. Lesions typically treated with the CryoProbe™ are plantar veruccae and mosaic veruccae. Other skin lesions of the foot and leg, such as verucca vulgaris, molluscum, actinic and seborrheic keratosis, hemangioma, granuloma, skin tags, fibropapillomas and brown (liver) spots can be effectively removed. Note: Plantar veruccae usually have a keratotic overlay. This callus must be debrided prior to freezing the lesion. The keratotic tissue is too dense to be penetrated.

Advantages of the use of the CryoProbe™ over other cryosurgical instruments include:

• Precise delivery system permits extremely accurate application of the



Multi plantar warts



Veruccus Vul

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Cryoprobe™...

refrigerant to the lesion, making it possible to treat only the pathological tissue and not affecting any of the healthy tissue surrounding the lesion.

• Local anesthesia is not needed because the nerve endings at the lesion site are immediately desensitized and little to no pain is associated with the treatment. There is also minimal to no discomfort post treatment.

• Since there is no break in the surface of the skin the potential for infection is markedly reduced. Dressing the treated area is rarely necessary.

• After treatment the patient can immediately replace his or her shoes and
continue any activity desired, including bathing and swimming. There is virtually no post-operative care required.

• There is rarely scarring.

• Short duration of treatment (20 to 45 seconds)

• High efficacy in treating warts and other skin lesions with only one treatment.

• Patient and doctor-friendly.

If you have a lesion that is 3mm deep and 3mm in diameter freezing time would be 15 to 20 seconds. Larger lesions will require increased freeze time to ensure that the freezing depth is uniform throughout the lesion. All lesions should be treated for the appropriate time and then given a defrost period of from one to two minutes and then treated a second time. This freeze-thaw-freeze technique greatly reduces the reoccurrence rate of these lesions.

In the typical sequence of healing post-treatment, an erythematous ring appears around the treated lesion and persists for 2 to 3 days. The tissue will discolor in 5 to 7 days and slough in 10 to 14 days. Complete healing without scar formation can be seen in from 3 to 6 weeks.

The CryoProbe™ was designed by a German engineer about 4 years ago and is manufactured in Belgium. It has been used very successfully in Europe and was introduced into the United States a little over one year ago. It is FDA approved and has met with great enthusiasm since its introduction. Cryosurgical Concepts was formed in mid-2005 by Sheldon Willens, DPM and Robert B. Altman, DVM. Cryosurgical Concepts is the exclusive importer of the CryoProbe™ in the United States in the field of podiatry and has three authorized distributors: Gill Podiatry of Cleveland, Ohio, CSI of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Shockwave Systems of Irvine, California, as well as authorized sales agents.

For further information about the hottest new *cold* product in podiatry today, call Cryosurgical Concepts toll free at 866 736 6577 or call your local distributor or *circle #194 on the reader service card.*

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