

Are there any risks/ complications?

Risks and complications with this procedure are very rare but may include:

- Infection– as you have an open wound there is a small risk of infection. However, as long as you are salt bathing and dressing the area as instructed this should be avoided. If you notice any signs of infection: redness, heat, swelling and pain you should get in touch with us ASAP.
- Delayed healing– it is important that you rest the area thoroughly in order to allow it to heal
- Scarring
- Reaction to the local anesthetic– this is extremely rare
- The verruca may not respond to the treatment
- The verruca may reoccur.

How much does it cost?

The cost of verruca needling is £250.

What is a Podiatrist?

A Podiatrist / Chiropodist is a person who is specialized in the lower limb. They are trained to recognize and treat conditions relating to the lower limb. Both titles are now “protected” by the health care professions council (HCPC).

WARNING: Foot Health Practitioners are not Podiatrists / Chiropodists and are not regulated by the HCPC.



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Verrucae

Needling

What is verruca needling?

Verruca needling is a method where we prick the verruca several times with a sterile needle under local anesthetic.



How does it work?

Once the area has been treated, the virus is directly exposed to the fatty tissue beneath the skin where the body has responders for our immune system. Here the hope is that the immune system can recognise, and then destroy the virus. Verruca needling is intended to break down the verruca and create a controlled inflammatory response which then stimulates the body's immune system to fight off the virus.

If you have diabetes, liver, kidney or heart failure, are on Warfarin, are breastfeeding or could be pregnant then you may not be suitable. You should speak to one of our Podiatrists who will discuss this with you.

What can I expect?

We first use local anesthetic around the area in order to make the verruca and the surrounding area numb. The amount of numbness you may feel will depend on the location of the verruca.



Once the area is numb, we pierce the verruca several times with a sterile needle. This will implant the virus into the layer of the skin where hopefully the body's immune system can detect the virus and destroy it.

Does it hurt?

The procedure itself is not painful as it is all completed under local anesthetic. You will feel the sting from the initial injection and you may feel some pressure during the procedure but you shouldn't feel any sharp or painful sensations.

Once the anesthetic wears off (this can last for a few hours) the area will be sore and can feel bruised. This can last for 1-2 days afterwards. We recommend if you have any pain afterwards to take paracetamol **only** (not ibuprofen or aspirin).

What do I need to do afterwards?

As parts of your foot will be numb you will not be able to drive after the procedure and so should arrange for a lift home. We advise that you rest as much as possible when you get home and to elevate your foot for at least 1-2 hours afterwards.



When do I need to be seen again?

We will see you again for a follow up appointment in 3 months. If you have any queries or concerns before then of course you just need to contact us.

Is it guaranteed to work?

As with any verruca treatment, there is no guarantee that verruca needling will work.