



**Waukesha County
Public Health Division
Fact Sheet**

Plantar Warts

What are Plantar Warts?

Plantar Warts are usually rough-textured lesions on the sole of the foot and are caused by a viral infection.

Who gets Plantar Warts?

Children, in particular teenagers, are more prone to Plantar Warts than adults, but anyone can get them.

How are Plantar Warts spread?

Plantar Warts are spread through indirect and direct contact.

What are the symptoms of Plantar Warts?

Plantar warts are frequently painful due to direct pressure from standing on them. These warts grow inward, are hard, flat and have well-defined borders.

How soon do symptoms appear?

Symptoms usually appear in about 2-3 months, however the range can be as short as 1 month or as long as 20 months.

When and for how long is a person able to spread Plantar Warts?

How long a person is contagious is unknown, but may be as long as lesions on the sole are visible.

Do past infections with Plantar Warts make a person immune?

Past infection with Plantar Warts does not make a person immune to them.

Is there a treatment for Plantar Warts?

Treatments are available. Consult your physician.

What can a person or community do to prevent the spread of Plantar Warts?

To prevent the spread of Plantar Warts, avoid direct contact with the lesions; thoroughly clean and wash floors of locker rooms, shower areas, and other communal areas daily; and encourage footwear for someone who is known to be infected.