IMPORTANT: Always wear gloves when handling squaric acid and when applying the 2% solution to patients. If squaric acid contacts your skin it may cause an allergic reaction similar to that experienced by your patients. Instruct patients or their parent/caregiver to avoid contact outside the treatment area.

In-Office

1. Apply the 2% squaric acid solution to a dime-sized area on the patient’s upper arm. Circle the area where you applied the solution with a marker. Place Vaseline on the area and cover with a band-aid.

2. Instruct the patient (or the patient’s parent/caregiver) to remove the band-aid and wash the area thoroughly after 2 days. Between the next few days up to two weeks, a local reaction should appear at the site where the 2% squaric acid was applied.

   Note: If the patient or their parent notices blistering or anything more severe than a mild rash, instruct them to apply hydrocortisone cream to the area and contact your office. It is recommended that a prescription for hydrocortisone cream be provided along with the squaric acid.

3. At about 2 weeks after sensitization, the patient should return to your office. Check to see if there was a local reaction.

   a. If there was a reaction, then give the patient the 0.2% solution and offer instructions on proper at-home use.

   b. If there was no reaction, reapply the 2% solution and repeat steps 1-3. If there is still no reaction after a second attempt, you may use a squaric acid 3-5% solution for sensitization. Note that a small percentage of patients will not develop a reaction to squaric acid.

Patient Instructions

1. The patient or their parent should apply a small amount of 0.2% squaric acid solution to the warts with a cotton swab once per day or as directed. The solution should be rubbed in thoroughly so that it is absorbed into the warts.

   Note: Patients or their parents should not touch the squaric acid with their bare hands. Instruct them to avoid letting it contact skin, clothes, and furniture. Wearing gloves when applying is recommended.

2. Every 3-4 weeks, the patient should visit your office so you can check on their progress and monitor their reactions.