

For most people there is a strong case for not treating verrucae.

They do not usually cause symptoms and usually resolve spontaneously within months or, at the most, within 2 years<sup>1</sup>.

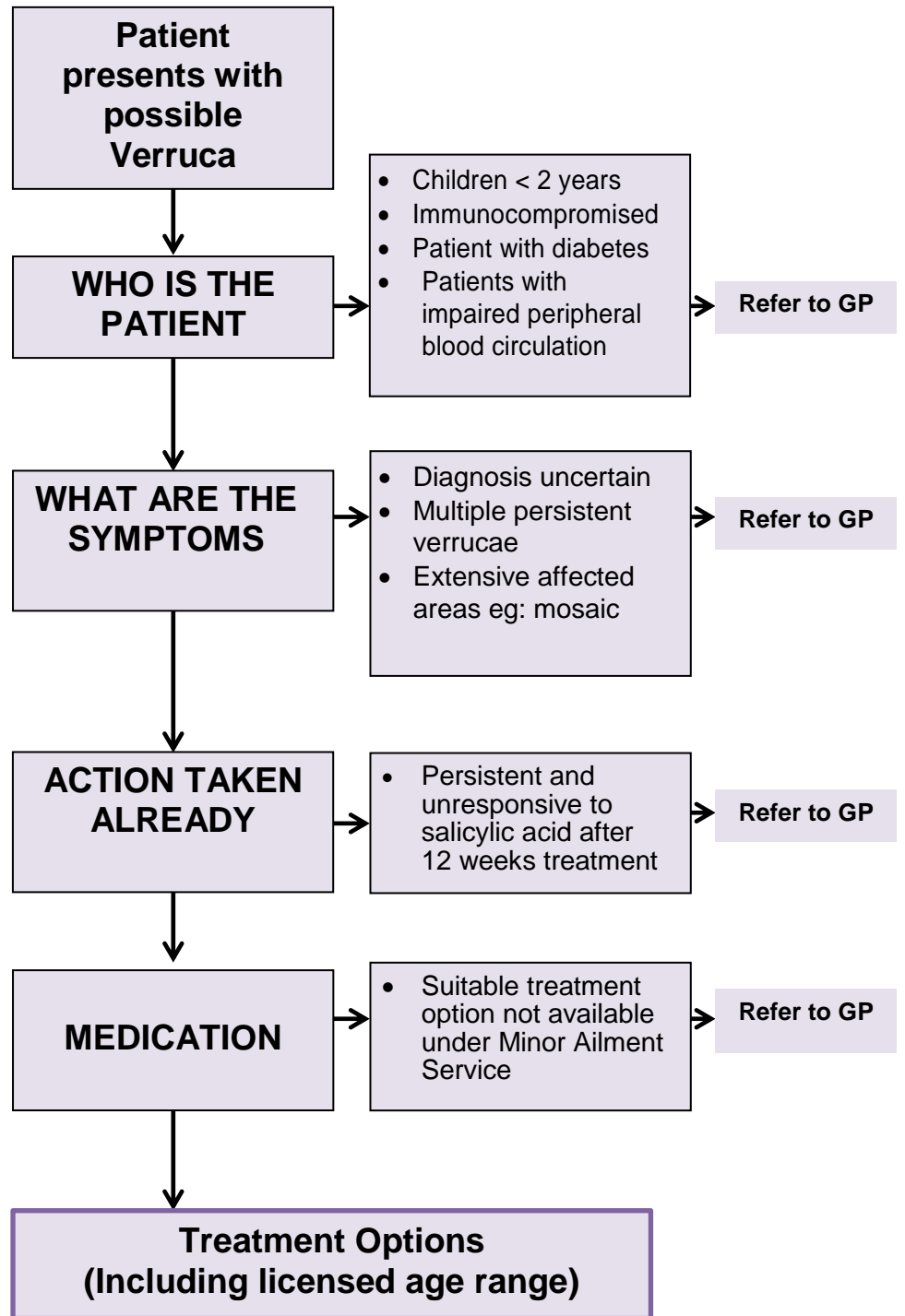
Treatment may be prolonged and have adverse effects.

Consider treatment if:

- Verruca is painful
- Cosmetically unsightly or causing distress
- Patient is requesting treatment and the verruca is persisting

Treatment depends upon what has been tried already and what the person prefers

See page 2 for self-care advice



First line treatment:

- Salicylic acid 12% / lactic acid 4% (Salatac® gel) > 2 years
- Salicylic acid 16.7% / lactic acid 16.7% (Salactol® collodion paint) > 2 years

Second line treatment for use when lower strengths have been ineffective:

- Salicylic acid 26% (Occlusal® cutaneous solution) >2 years

Advice for Self-Care / Non Pharmaceutical Treatment	Treatment Options Formulary Items		
	Drug	Dose and Duration	Advice
<p>Advise patients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Although verrucae can be cosmetically unsightly, they are not harmful; usually they do not cause symptoms, and resolve without treatment.</li> <li>Topical salicylic acid may require administration for up to 12 weeks and can cause local skin irritation</li> <li>Verrucae are contagious, but the risk of transmission is thought to be low</li> </ul> <p>In order to limit personal spread (auto-inoculation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid scratching lesions</li> <li>Keep feet dry and change socks daily</li> </ul> <p>Adults and children with verrucae should not be excluded from activities such as sports and swimming, but should take measures to minimize transmission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cover with a waterproof plaster when swimming</li> <li>Wear flip-flops or other appropriate foot wear in communal showers</li> <li>Avoid sharing shoes, socks, or towels</li> </ul> <p>Useful link for patients: Warts and verrucae, NHS Choices <a href="http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Warts/Pages/Introduction.aspx">http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Warts/Pages/Introduction.aspx</a></p>	<p>Salatac® gel Salactol® collodion paint</p> <p><b>Second line:</b> Occlusal® solution (for use only when lower strength salicylic acid preparations have been ineffective)</p>	<p>Apply once daily at night for up to 12 weeks</p> <p>Carefully apply Occlusal twice to the wart using the brush applicator allowing the first application to dry before applying the second. Thereafter repeat treatment once daily</p>	<p>Before applying, soak area to soften for 5 to 10 minutes in warm water, and then pat the skin dry with own towel. Peel off any remaining film from previous application. Avoid applying to surrounding skin (using soft paraffin or specially designed plasters) Debride surface of verruca with emery board once or twice a week to remove excess hard skin. Do not apply to extensively affected areas because of risk of scarring.</p>

**References:** 1. NICE Clinical Evidence Summary: Warts and verrucae <https://cks.nice.org.uk/warts-and-verrucae>

See individual SPCs for further information/advice