

## Innovations

# A novel use of vial rubber cap and salicylic acid as corn cap for plantar corn

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## PROBLEM

Corn is a painful conical hyperkeratotic lesion often present on the pressure points of the sole.<sup>[1]</sup> For instance, paring, debulking, and customization of insoles and footwear are employed for instant pain relief.<sup>[2]</sup> The authors used the injection vial's rubber cap to alleviate discomfort in individuals who were unwilling to go for punch excision.

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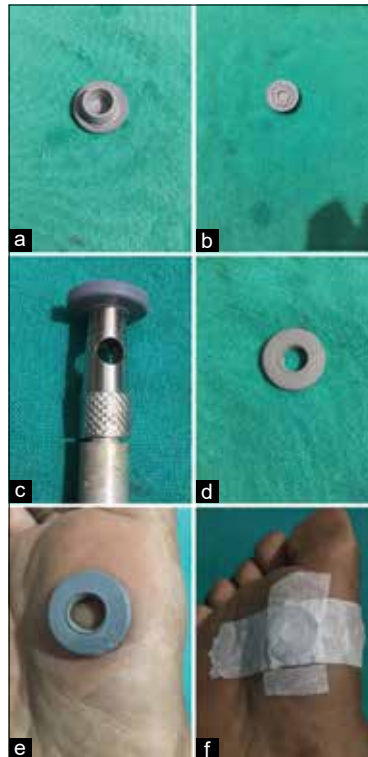
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**Figure 1:** (a-f) The different stages of procuring and securing the modified rubber cap as corn cap over the sole to relieve pressure pain and for drug delivery.

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## SOLUTION

We customized and modified the rubber cap of an injection vial. The protruding rim on the inside surface of the cap is removed with a blade. Then, the cap is punched out using a biopsy punch to create a hole in the center of the cap. Following that, the cap well is filled with salicylic acid (12%) or lactic acid (16.66%) and secured on the sole with adhesive tape, keeping the corn lesion in the center of the hole [Figure 1a-f]. This corn cap is long-lasting, cost-effective, and durable, and it can be cleaned and reused by the patient for an extended period of time. However, being made of rubber, it is a little bit more firm, and some people may have an allergic or irritating reaction to rubber.

## Declaration of patient consent

Patient's consent not required as patients identity is not disclosed or compromised.

## Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

## Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

## REFERENCES

1. Freeman DB. Corns and calluses resulting from mechanical hyperkeratosis. *Am Fam Physician* 2002;65:2277-80.
2. Gupta S, Gujrathi AV, Jangra RS, Mahendra A, Gupta S. Customized assembly of insole for immediate pain relief in plantar warts. *Indian J Dermatol Venereol Leprol* 2022;88:567-77.

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