

Wound Care Instructions:

Supplies needed - May be purchased at any pharmacy without a prescription: antibacterial soap (Lever 2000, Dial), Vaseline petroleum jelly or Aquaphor (not Neosporin or Bacitracin), Q-Tips and bandages.

To speed healing of your surgical wound and minimize scar formation, the following instructions should be followed:

Remove the bandage tomorrow morning and gently clean the wound area with antibacterial soap and water.

Dry the wound or biopsy site with a clean Q-Tip and apply Vaseline petroleum jelly or Aquaphor.

Cover the area with a clean bandage.

Continue wound care at least twice daily, particularly after the wound area becomes wet, until the wound has completely healed.

Try to keep a thin layer of ointment on the wound continuously throughout the day. This will help prevent infection and will promote healing with less scar formation than if a dry crust (scab) is allowed to form.

Occasionally, a wound may bleed; if this occurs, apply steady pressure using one or two fingertips and a small gauze pad for 15-20 minutes. Do not lift gauze to check the site until the 20-minute period is over. This usually stops the bleeding. If bleeding cannot be controlled, please contact our office.

Typically, a narrow circle of redness will develop surrounding the biopsy site and the base of the biopsy site may turn red, white or gray in color. If you should notice any sign of infection such as increasing redness, swelling, pain or drainage, please call our office immediately.

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