



Surgery Post Care

1. Leave dry dressing on surgical site for a minimum of 24 hours.
2. Remove dressing and gently cleanse with a saline solution (1/2 teaspoon salt and 1 cup of water), or you may use contact lens saline solution. Pat dry.
3. Apply a thin layer of Vaseline (white petrolatum).
4. Cover with a sterile adhesive bandage if needed. Do this once daily until healed or until sutures are removed.

If bleeding occurs apply constant pressure to the site for twenty minutes. In the event of excessive swelling, increased redness, increasing discomfort or discharge from the wound, please contact our office at (206)937-8954.

□ Shave Biopsy

This type of biopsy leaves an open area on the skin that heals from the periphery. It is not uncommon for it to take two weeks to heal. Keep it covered to avoid scab formation - this will help the healing process and helps to minimize scar.

□ Punch Biopsy

A circular portion of skin has been removed. It may have none or a few sutures to close the wound. It will typically heal within 1-2 weeks. It is important to apply ointment as directed to keep a scab from forming over the sutures. This allows for better healing as well as facilitating removal of the sutures typically 1-2 weeks following excision.

□ Excision

A wedge of skin has been removed and sutures (stitches) hold the wound together during healing. It is important to apply ointment as directed to keep a scab from forming over the sutures. This allows for better healing as well as facilitating removal of the sutures typically 1-2 weeks following excision.

□ Electrodesiccation and Curettage

An area of skin has been scraped and cauterized. This leaves an open wound that has to heal from the periphery. This may take 2-4 weeks to heal. Keep it covered to avoid scab formation - this will help the healing process and helps to minimize scar.