

Aftercare: Excisions and Biopsies

Excisions and biopsies involve the removal of a skin lesion or taking a specimen for testing. The skin edges are then sutured together.

If the local anaesthetic involves the mouth or lip area, you will need to avoid hot foods and drinks until the feeling returns to this area. You are at risk of scalding.

Pain Relief

The effects of a local anaesthetic can last for up to 2 hours.

Paracetamol may be necessary to relieve any discomfort at this time.

Showering/Bathing

Following your operation you will have a dressing applied to the surgical site. Keep dressing dry for 2 days.

After 2 days you may shower. You may have a second layer of gauze over the first dressing. This outer layer of gauze must be removed before getting wet. If the inner dressing comes off, apply betadine after each shower and cover with tape.

Do not smoke.

Smoking contributes to wound breakdown and delays healing as well as causing other health problems



SKIN | VEIN | SURGICAL | COSMETIC

Bleeding

If you have any bleeding from the site you should apply pressure to the area for 5 minutes

If bleeding continues or is excessive please call your surgeon.

The dressing may have to be changed if the bleeding is continuous or is excessive. You will need to contact the surgery for instructions. It is not unusual for the dressing to become blood stained.

Swimming in chlorinated water is not advisable until the sutures are removed.

Scarring

At 6 - 12 weeks following your surgery, the scar may become thick, red and lumpy. This should settle within 6 months when the scar should be pale and soft.

Your procedure will include two post operative checkups.

These must be in the first six week following your procedure.

Any further appointments will incur a fee.

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