Aftercare: Full Thickness Skin Graft

Following the removal of a skin lesion, a full thickness skin graft may be required to heal the area excised.

The skin graft is taken from a chosen site. This becomes known as the donor site.

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 and donor sites. These dressings must be kept dry and intact until you are reviewed by a nurse or surgeon.

Medication

After your procedure, resume all medication unless otherwise specified by your surgeon.

Do not smoke.

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



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.

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 followup	appointment:
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Time:	
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Contact Us: 1 Jetty Rd, BRIGHTON SA 5048 Ph 8377 1775

info@brightondaysurgery.com.au

Dr Marks: 0412647753 Dr Turner: 0404891322