

# Aftercare: Split Skin Graft

A split skin graft involves the removal of a thin layer of normal skin from a healthy part of the body, such as the arm, thigh or buttock. The graft is placed over the gap and sutured or stapled into position.

## 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. These dressings must be kept dry and intact until you are reviewed at Brighton Day Surgery.

## 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**



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 donor site will be covered with a plastic dressing. It is normal for this dressing to accumulate blood underneath. Do not change this dressing and do keep it dry.

If the donor site dressing begins to leak blood from the edges it will need to be replaced as soon as possible. Please call the us to arrange this

## 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.

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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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