

**Patient  
Information**

# Taking care of your wound after dermatology surgery

Patient's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surgeon's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

Procedure name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of stitches used: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of stiches used: Nylon / Absorbable  
(please delete as appropriate)

If you have stitches in your wound, they will need to be removed in:

\_\_\_\_\_ days by \_\_\_\_\_

## Wound care

After your procedure you might have a small scar which may be permanent, but you can help it to fade by following this advice:

- Keep your wound dry for 48 hours. Wear a waterproof plaster if you have a bath or shower, but you should take it off afterwards. If your clothes rub on the wound, keep it covered with a breathable dressing/dry plaster.

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**GHP11426\_03\_20**

Department  
**Dermatology**

Review due  
**March 2023**

## Patient Information

- Wounds following curettage will look like a graze and have no stitches. These can be left uncovered after 48 hours. This wound type can be slow to heal.
- For all wounds, please apply Vaseline® once or twice a day for 2 to 3 weeks to protect the skin (unless you have steristrips). You may be asked to use an antibiotic cream or dressing instead, but the doctor or nurse will advise you about this.
- Keep the wound as clean as possible until the stitches are removed.
- If you have steristrips/paper 'stitches' over the wound, continue to apply them as shown for at least 4 weeks. This will help to reduce scarring.
- If the wound bleeds after you have left the hospital, press on it with a clean tissue for 5 to 10 minutes. This will help to stop the bleeding. If you are currently taking any blood thinning medication, it may take longer for the bleeding to stop. If there is a lot of bleeding and it does not appear to be stopping, please seek medical advice from the practice nurse in your GP's surgery or the Dermatology Outpatient Nurses (the number is listed at the end of this leaflet). Out of normal working hours please contact NHS 111 for advice.
- If your wound becomes swollen and sore, or begins to ooze, please contact your GP as you may have an infection.
- Most wounds are not painful, but if you have any discomfort, you can take pain relief such as paracetamol. Please follow the instructions on the pack. If you are unsure please contact your GP.

## Contact information

### Dermatology Outpatient Nurses

Tel: 0300 422 8193

Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

### NHS 111

Tel: 111

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