

**Patient
Information**

Wound care after skin surgery

Patient name: _____

Surgeon: _____

Date of procedure: _____

Procedure: _____

Number of stitches used: _____

If you have stitches in your wound, they will need to be removed in _____ days.

Wound care

The following advice is to make sure that problems with your wound are minimised.

- Keep your wound dry for 48 hours. If a dressing has been applied, please leave this on until your stitches are removed, but replace it if it comes away. You will be given spare dressings to take home.
- Curettage wounds will look like a burn and will not have stitches. These wounds can be left uncovered. This type of wound can be slow to heal (4 to 6 weeks).

For curettage wounds apply Vaseline® (from a new pot) once or twice a day for 2 to 3 weeks. This will protect the skin.

Alternatively you may be asked to use an antibiotic cream or dressing instead. The doctor or nurse will advise you about this.

- If the wound bleeds after you have left the hospital, press on it with a clean tissue for 10 minutes.

If you are currently taking any blood thinning medication, it may take longer for the bleeding to stop.

Reference No.

GHPI1426_05_21

Department

Dermatology

Review due

May 2024

Patient Information

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 hot, swollen and/ or sore, or begins to ooze, please contact your GP for advice as you may have an infection which might require treatment with antibiotics.
- Most wounds are not painful, but if you have any discomfort, you can take pain relief such as paracetamol. Please follow the dose instructions on the packet. If you are unsure about pain relief please contact your GP or the Dermatology Outpatient Nurses.
- Healing may be delayed if you have diabetes or problems with your immune system.

Contact information

Dermatology Outpatients Nurses

Gloucestershire Royal Hospital

Tel: 0300 422 8193

Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm

NHS 111

Tel: 111

Content reviewed: May 2021