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Shave Biopsy and Sutured Biopsy Wound Care

Begin wound care 24 hrs after the procedure.

1. Remove bandage.
2. Wash wound gently with soap and water. Rinse well.
3. Pat dry.
4. Apply a thick layer of **Aquaphor, Vaseline or Prescription Mupirocin ointment**.
5. Cover with a bandage. Do not use Telfa.

Repeat the above steps one time per day until wound is healed or sutures removed (about 7 – 10 days).

Frequently asked questions:

1. Why Aquaphor or Vaseline?

Studies have shown that Aquaphor or Vaseline have anti-bacterial properties and leads to the best cosmetic outcome. Many people are allergic or can become allergic to Neosporin, Bacitracin or Triple antibiotic ointment. If you are allergic to Lanolin, you should not use Aquaphor.

2. Can I allow my wound to “Breathe?”

Studies have shown that wounds that are kept covered with a layer of ointment 24/7 heal faster and look better than those that are left open. This also allows sutures to be removed more easily.

3. Can I go in the pool or the ocean?

After the first 48 hrs you may immerse the wound in water. You may cover with a waterproof bandage. Please avoid lakes and ponds.

4. How will I know if my wound becomes infected and what should I do?



If you experience worsening pain, redness, drainage or fevers, call our office immediately so that we may arrange a wound check. There is 24/7 on-call coverage.

5. What if the wound begins to bleed?

Apply 20 minutes of firm pressure and ice. If the wound continues to bleed heavily, contact the office.

**** If you receive a bill from Mass General (MGH), it is for the reading of your biopsy/specimen. Please call 855-644-3376 with any questions.

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