

CENTER FOR DERMATOLOGY, COSMETIC AND LASER SURGERY, INC

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SKIN CARE OF BIOPSY SITE

A biopsy was performed today in which a small piece of skin was removed for pathology examination. Healing will be rapid if a few simple instructions are followed.

1. Starting the day after the procedure, clean the area with gentle soap and water, and apply either Aquaphor, Vaseline or _____ on the area. **AVOID POLYSPORIN, NEOSPORIN, AND TRIPLE ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT.**
2. Cover with a light dressing such as a band aid or Telfa gauze (with Micropore paper tape, available at all pharmacies). Do this once a day (or as directed). If the area stays covered and moist with Aquaphor, Vaseline or _____, and a dressing, it heals faster. Do the cleaning, ointment and dressing until the stitches come out or the site is healed over (usually 2-3 weeks).
3. For the scalp or other hairy areas a band aid may not be needed, as it may not stick or be painful when it is removed with hair, etc.
4. For mild postoperative pain, Tylenol should be adequate. Do not take aspirin or Advil as they may cause bleeding.
5. If unusual pain occurs along with increasing redness, swelling, pain/tenderness, yellow drainage, etc., there may be a wound infection. If this occurs call immediately.
6. If a shave biopsy is done (a biopsy where no stitches are used), it may take up to 2-3 weeks for complete healing. This is normal. Please continue the above care till the site is healed.
7. While the site is healing, there may be some redness and clear drainage, this is normal. Symptoms described in number 5 are not normal, please call us. The biopsy site may have some red and brown color after healing, then there is gradual fading. Creams can be given to improve the appearance.
8. Do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions or concerns.

Website: <http://www.centerforderm.com>

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