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Dermatologic/Mohs Surgery
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Postoperative Wound Care Instructions

- ❑ **Sutures with Pressure Dressing:** Remove the white pressure dressing after 24 hours. Clean the sutures with hydrogen peroxide then apply a thin layer of Vaseline® twice per day. You may get the sutures wet after removing the pressure bandage. You may cover the sutures with a non-stick pad and tape.
- ❑ **Sutures with Steri-Strips and Pressure Dressing:** Remove the white pressure dressing after 24 hours. Leave the Steri-Strips in place. There may be some staining of the Steri-Strips. Keep them as dry as possible. Some Steri-Strips may fall off. The dressing will be replaced at your next visit.
- ❑ **Graft with Pressure Dressing:** Remove the white pressure dressing after 24 hours. Clean the sutures with hydrogen peroxide then apply a thin layer of Vaseline® twice per day. Be very gentle with the graft. You may cover the graft with a non-stick pad and tape.
- ❑ **Second Intention Healing with Pressure Dressing:** Remove the white pressure dressing after 24 hours. Clean the wound with hydrogen peroxide followed by a thin layer of Vaseline® twice per day. You may cover the wound with a non-stick pad and tape.

There are several events that may arise following surgery:

- **Bleeding:** A small amount of bleeding or oozing during the first 24 hours following surgery is common. To minimize the chance for excessive bleeding:
 - Limit activity for at least 1 week.
 - If surgery was on the face, head or neck, avoid stooping or bending for 24 to 48 hours.
 - If surgery was on the arm or leg, keep the arm or leg elevated as much as possible.
 - Avoid lifting more than 10 pounds until your sutures are removed.If bleeding occurs, apply firm constant pressure on the bandage/site for 20 minutes. If excessive bleeding continues, apply pressure and contact Dr. Jason Hansen at **(801) 466-MOHS (6647)**. If the office is closed, please follow the recorded instructions to contact Dr. Hansen.
- **Swelling:** Swelling occurs as a normal response to injury and wound healing. It is usually at its worst 48-72 hours following surgery. An ice pack or a cool compress may be soothing especially around the eyes, nose, and lips. Apply ice or a cool compress 20 minutes on then 20 minutes off as needed, especially during the first 24-72 hours. Apply ice over the pressure dressing during the first 24 hours.
- **Pain:** Discomfort may develop when local anesthesia wears off. In most cases, Extra Strength Tylenol® will relieve this discomfort. Avoid taking Aspirin, Advil® (Ibuprofen), or Aleve® (Naprosyn) unless already prescribed.
- **Infection:** Mild redness and swelling is common after surgery. Fortunately, wound infections are uncommon. Signs of infection are increasing pain, swelling, redness or yellowish drainage (pus) several days following surgery.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Jason Hansen at **(801) 466-MOHS (6647)**. If the office is closed, please follow the recorded instructions to contact Dr. Hansen.

• **Special instructions:**

I have received, reviewed and understand these instructions: _____

(Patient or Authorized Representative Signature)