



DERMATOLOGY  
ASSOCIATES OF ITHACA  
*Healthier Skin Since 1983*

# BIOPSY CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- There are no activity restrictions following your biopsy. You may shower and swim as you normally would do.
- Leave the waterproof bandage in place while the wound is healing. If it falls off, cover the wound with either a new waterproof bandage or Vaseline/Aquaphor and a regular bandage. Do **not** apply OTC antibiotics ointments. The bandage may stay in place for several weeks, acting as a second layer of skin to protect the new skin growing underneath.
- Should bleeding occur, apply firm, constant pressure on the bandage for 15-20 minutes. This will usually stop minor bleeding. Once the bleeding has stopped, you may cover the wound with Vaseline/Aquaphor and a clean bandage.
- Infection: Infection seldom occurs when the wound care instructions have been carefully followed. Signs of infections for which you should call the office include increased pain, swelling, redness or yellowish drainage several days after the procedure.
- **Please check your patient portal for your results in 2 weeks. If they are not uploaded to your portal, please call us at (607) 257-1107 for biopsy results.** If you reach our answering service, please leave your name, date of birth and a number where we can call you back. We will return your call within two business days when you leave a message.

## WHY ARE SKIN BIOPSIES NECESSARY?

A skin biopsy is one of the most important diagnostic tests for skin cancers and disorders. While a lesion may appear one way to the naked eye, it may tell a different story under the microscope. After a biopsy is performed in the office, it is sent to our team of dermatopathologists at Inform Diagnostics who check for atypical cells and skin cancer. Their reports provide information for our team on the best course of treatment for the patient.

Ithaca: 1051 Craft Rd | Cortland: 3773 Luker Road  
T: (607) 257-1107 | [www.ithacaderm.com](http://www.ithacaderm.com)



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