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WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNS OF INFECTION

Swelling Heat Red Streak

Redness Drainage Excessive Tenderness

Call our office immediately if any of the above signs develop or if you have any questions. If bleeding occurs hold continuous pressure for 30 minutes. Call our office if it persists.

PAIN CONTROL

** If you experience discomfort you may take Tylenol (acetaminophen) or Extra Strength Tylenol ** Follow the instructions on the bottle.

SKIN BIOPSY/EXCISION

- Keep the area clean & dry for 24 hours.
- After 24 hours you may bathe normally.
- Gently clean the area with soap & water one to two times a day, & apply a drop of Aquaphor, Vaseline, or petrolatum ointment.
- Keep covered with a bandage until healed.
- Do not let a scab form. Do not leave wound open to air. This will delay healing.
- If stitches were placed, return for removal as instructed.
- <u>RESULTS</u>: Please call office if you do not receive notification of biopsy results within 2 weeks.

FREEZING

- You may bathe normally after treatment.
- Blisters may develop. Do not pick at the blisters or remove the top of the blister.
- You may cover the blister with a band aide.
- Gently clean the area with soap & water one to two times a day, & apply a drop of Aquaphor, Vaseline, or petrolatum ointment.
- Keep moist & avoid scab formation.
- There may be a need to repeat the treatment if the lesion does not resolve.

CURETTAGE

- Keep the area clean & dry for 24 hours.
- After 24 hours you may bathe normally.
- Gently clean the area with soap & water one to two times a day, & apply a drop of Aquaphor, Vaseline, or petrolatum ointment.
- Keep covered with a bandage until healed.
- Keep moist & avoid scab formation.

WOUND HEALING FACTS

- Wounds on the lower leg heal the most slowly sometimes taking up to 6 months or more.
- Wounds heal best if kept moist & covered & slower with increased scaring if left open.
- Over the counter antibiotic ointments (Bacitracin, Neosporin) often cause allergic reactions & have no proven benefit in speeding healing.
- Sun exposure to healing wounds may cause permanent darkening of the site.

NOTE: Please note that if a biopsy is done, you may receive separate bills for pathology charges. These bills are for the processing and interpretation of the biopsy specimen. The processing charge will be from the laboratory and the interpretation charge will be from either one of our physicians or a consultant dermatopathologist. The bill for your visit today does not include these charges.