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Wound Care Instructions

The dressing should remain in place until _____. If the dressing becomes loose before you can re-tape it in place.

Sutures: When you remove the dressing the suture line will be dark pink or red. This is normal.

Wound care: Wash daily over the area with soap and water. Pat dry. You should apply ointment over the wound. Cover the area with a Telfa non-stick dressing or a large band-aid daily. It is important to keep the wound moist. Do not lift over 10 pounds for 2 weeks after surgery.

Infection: If the wound becomes very warm, red and drains a pus- like substance; or if you develop fevers or chills, you may have a wound infection, contact the dermatology office.

Pain: Post-operative pain is usually minimal. Tylenol or Extra Strength Tylenol should relieve any pain that you have. Ice packs may be used to decrease inflammation and pain.

Bleeding: You have a dressing in place to help prevent bleeding. If you do notice bleeding, hold pressure without looking for 20 minutes. Then re-bandage tightly. A small amount of blood on the dressing is normal. Contact the dermatology office if there is persistent bleeding.

If you have any questions, contact the office (301) 829-4185