

# PUNCH BIOPSY

# WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

You have undergone a punch biopsy today. A biopsy is the removal of a small sample of a growth on the skin. The sample is then sent to a pathologist, a doctor who examines the sample under a microscope and renders a diagnosis regarding the type of growth or disease present. Knowing the type of growth or disease helps determine the best possible way to treat you.

You will need to take care of this biopsy site to prevent infection and aid in optimal healing. You can purchase any of these items needed for your wound care at any pharmacy.

1. Leave the bandage on for 24 hours. Do not to get the bandage wet.
2. After 24 hours, remove bandage and clean the biopsy site twice daily using a mild soap and water.
3. Apply a small amount of Vaseline ointment directly on the biopsy site. Avoid Neosporin or Neomycin.
4. Cover with a clean bandage.
5. Repeat daily for 5-7 days or until healed.
6. Avoid shaving over site until sutures have been removed.
7. **Sutures to be removed in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days**. If results are in, they will be given at your suture removal appointment.

**Please CALL if you develop signs of infection such as:**

* Thick, yellow, pus-like drainage that is associated with an odor.
* Fever over 101° Fahrenheit
* Redness streaking from biopsy site that continues to increase over 24 hours.
* Pain and swelling at the biopsy site.

\*\*Some redness is part of the normal healing process. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call.