

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WOUND CARE
“CLOSED” (SUTURED) WOUND

Keep the original bandage on the wound for 24 hours. **Do not get it wet for this period of time.** After 24 hours, a daily dressing change must be done.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Wash hands with soap and water or waterless hand sanitizer.
2. Remove the old bandage and gently cleanse around the stitched area with a mild soap or soapless cleanser and water solution.
3. Dry the wound with a clean Q-tip or pat it dry.
4. Apply a small strip of non-adhesive pad or bandage to cover the suture line and secure with paper tape.
5. Change the bandage daily **until the wound is healed.** You may change it more often if necessary but once daily should be sufficient.

NOTE: AVOID STRENUOUS ACTIVITY FOR AT LEAST TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING SURGERY.

WHAT TO EXPECT FOLLOWING SURGERY:

Slight swelling is common. This should decrease with time.

Bleeding is rare, but if it should occur lie down and **apply firm, constant pressure to the area for 20 minutes.** If bleeding continues, repeat for an additional 20 minutes. A clean washcloth or gauze pad can be used over the wound. If you cannot stop the bleeding, call our office, your family doctor, or go the nearest Emergency Room.

You may experience some discomfort following surgery. Any NON-ASPIRIN product can be used as directed. Avoid alcohol and any products that contain aspirin as they thin the blood and may cause bleeding.

Please contact this office or your family doctor if you have excessive pain, bleeding, redness, swelling or fever. Any or all could indicate an infection.

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