

GREENSBORO DERMATOLOGY ASSOCIATES, PA
Patient Information
Postoperative Care for Surgery Patients

After 48 hours, remove the dressing and clean the wound gently with soap and water. Reapply Vaseline ointment plus a band-aid or surgical dressing. Continue to clean the area once a day, followed by Vaseline and a dressing until the area heals.

Activity: Avoid all strenuous activities and exercises until sutures (stitches) are removed.

Smoking: Patients that smoke have increased risk of delayed wound healing, smoking cessation is recommended.

Discomfort: Do not use Ibuprofen or alcohol for the first 48 hours after surgery. If you experience discomfort, you may take Tylenol (acetaminophen) or Extra-Strength Tylenol, one or two tablets every four hours.

Bleeding: If bleeding occurs, apply continuous firm pressure with cloth or gauze for 15 to 20 minutes. If the bleeding persists, repeat the pressure for an additional 20 minutes. If bleeding continues after this, you should notify us.

Infection: Some soreness and redness is expected. If the area becomes very sore, red, firm, or hot to the touch, or if you should develop a fever, please notify us. It is possible the area may be infected.

Bruising and Swelling: There may be a bruise near or below the site. This is normal and could last up to a week. Swelling is also normal. It usually increases for 24-48 hours and then begins to improve. Please call us if the swelling reappears or worsens.