



Mohs Center

OF RICHMOND DERMATOLOGY

3829 Gaskins Rd., Richmond VA 23233

Mon – Fri : 7:30am – 4:00pm • Sat – Sun : Closed

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mohscenterrd.com

SUTURED WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- NO strenuous activity for 48 hours. Resume moderate activity in 48 hours.
- On day of surgery, if allowed by your primary care physician and medical team, take 2 regular strength Tylenol (325 mg) or 1 extra strength Tylenol (500 mg) and alternate with 400-800 mg ibuprofen every 4 hours beginning 1 hour after surgery as need for pain relief.
 - After 24 hours take Tylenol/ ibuprofen as needed for discomfort.
- Do not drink alcoholic beverages for 48 hours. Alcohol increases your risk for post-operative bleeding.
- No dietary restrictions.
- Continue your prescribed medications.
- DO NOT ICE THE WOUND
- Do not smoke for 3 weeks; smoking is detrimental to wound healing.
- It is normal to have swelling and bruising around the surgical site. Bruising will fade in approximately 10-14 days. The swelling will resolve in 5-7 days. Elevate the area, if possible, to reduce swelling.
- Numbness, itchiness and sensitivity to temperature changes can occur after surgery and may take up to 12-18 months to normalize.

Bandage Care

- **Keep the pressure bandage (large white bandage) in place for 24-48 hours.**
- Underneath the pressure bandage (large white bandage) you will find a flat brown bandage.

Please leave this brown flat bandage in place for 7 days.

- Keep this brown flat bandage dry. Wash around it carefully.
 - If the bandage becomes loose-reinforce the dressing with band-aids/medical tape
 - If the dressing comes off-replace the dressing with Vaseline, bandaid, or non-adherent pad and medical tape. Then call the office.

Possible Complications

Bleeding:

1. Leave the bandage in place.
2. Apply direct pressure over the bandage for 40 minutes.
3. Call the office, Dr. Wallace's cellphone, or go to the nearest emergency room if pressure fails to stop the bleeding.
4. Use additional gauze and tape to maintain pressure once the bleeding has stopped.

Pain:

1. Post operative pain should slowly get better, never worse.
2. A severe increase in pain may indicate a problem. Call the office if this occurs.
3. Tylenol or Ibuprofen should be taken according to the manufacturer's directions days after surgery, as needed for discomfort, provided you are allowed to take these medications in guidance with your primary care physician and medical care team.

Signs/symptoms of infection:

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| • Redness | • Swelling |
| • Warmth to the touch | • Fever |
| • Red streaking around surgical site | • Chills |
| • Increased pain | • Foul smelling drainage |