

Xenograft Wound Care Post Staple/Suture Removal

MATERIALS

Q-tips or cotton tip applicators
Vaseline or Polysporin (Do not use Neosporin)
Telfa dressing pads (Non-adherent dressing pads)
Medical tape (Note: **Hypafix tape** is available at CVS across the street from Cary Skin Center)

PROCEDURE FOR CARE OF SKIN GRAFTED AREA (RECIPIENT SITE)

The dressing that was placed is a pressure dressing. This dressing applies pressure to the skin graft, which is important during the first week of healing.

- Gently wash your wound daily with antibacterial soap and water.
- Apply a thin layer of Vaseline, a piece of Telfa, a cotton ball or folded piece of gauze and tape, over the wound daily for 1 week. The bandage may be secured with Coban if the wound is on the extremities.
- After one week, discontinue the use of the cotton ball or gauze, and only apply the thin layer of Vaseline, Telfa, and tape after washing daily. Again, Coban may be used if the wound is on the extremity.
- You can expect the Xenograft to slough off any time over the next few days. The Xenograft may appear black during this time.
- You may discontinue bandaging the wound when there is no drainage present on the Telfa/non-stick bandage. This is the time when you can begin applying a sunscreen of at least SPF 30.
- The surgical wound will remain pink for several weeks to several months. Firmness of the scar is common.
- If you experience fever, excessive drainage, or warmth at the site, please call us during normal business hours.

Further questions can be addressed by calling our nurse line at **919-277-1017**. Our normal business hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30am – 5:00pm and 7:30am – 1:30pm on Wednesday and Friday.

IF BOX IS CHECKED, YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN A PRESCRIPTION. PLEASE CHECK YOUR CARY SKIN CENTER BAG AND TAKE AS DIRECTED.