



INSTRUCTIONS FOR SKIN GRAFTED WOUND WITH “LILLIPUTIAN” DRESSING

Skin grafting is a procedure by which a piece of skin is removed from one area (donor area) and transferred onto a surgical wound (recipient site) to aid in optimal wound healing.

PROCEDURE FOR CARE OF SKIN GRAFTED AREA (SKIN CANCER SURGICAL WOUND):

The dressing that was placed over the skin graft is a pressure dressing. This dressing applies pressure to the skin graft, which is important during the first week of healing. ***DO NOT GET AREA WET UNTIL SUTURES ARE REMOVED***

1. Leave the outer Telfa bandage in place and dry for 24-48 hours. This bandage is held in place with tape)
2. Remove outer Telfa bandage in 24-48 hours. Leave sutured pressure dressing under the Telfa bandage in place and dry until you return in 7 days.
3. A minimal amount of bloody drainage is to be expected, especially for the first 24-48 hours. Lightly dab with Q-tip or tissue as necessary to absorb any drainage. Do not pick off any crusting that may develop.
4. An unpleasant odor may be present from the dressing and gradually increase. This is not uncommon and should be anticipated.

WHAT TO EXPECT FOLLOWING SURGERY:

1. Swelling, bruising, numbness and redness around the wound are common, especially on the face. Swelling “peaks” about 2-4 days after surgery and then will begin to decrease. Elevate the area above the heart to reduce swelling. If the area is on the face or scalp, prop up head with an extra pillow when lying down or sleep in a recliner.
2. Small amounts of red/pink/yellow drainage from the wound may occur and should resolve after several days.
3. A low-grade fever (99-101 degrees Fahrenheit) following surgery may occur. A **NON-ASPIRIN** product may be used as tolerated (**Motrin, Ibuprofen, Aleve or Tylenol**).
4. Please contact our office during business hours or your local physician should you experience excessive bleeding that does not resolve after 60 minutes of applying pressure (see separate bleeding instructions), severe swelling, increasing redness, fever, or worsening pain.
5. Avoid heavy impact exercise such as running, aerobics, swimming and weight lifting for 3-4 weeks.

****Please turn this page over to find instructions on how to perform daily wound care on your donor site****

Further questions should be addressed through our clinic team line at 919-277-1017. Our normal business hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30am – 5:00pm and 7:30am – 1:30pm on Wednesday and Friday.

Calls to our physicians should be limited to medical emergencies only.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR DONOR SITE

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Clean soft cloth
- Vaseline
- Liquid Antibacterial soap
- Telfa - Non-adherent pads
- Medical tape

DAILY WOUND CARE OF SUTURED AREA (DONOR SITE):

1. Remove bandage in 24 hours.
2. Using liquid antibacterial soap and water, gently cleanse the sutures and surgical wound using a clean soft cloth or clean fingers and rinse off with water.
3. Pat dry or let air dry for 10-15 minutes
4. Cut Telfa pad to cover suture line
5. Apply a very thin layer of Vaseline to Telfa pad, secure Telfa pad to suture line with medical tape.
6. This process will be repeated daily until the sutures are removed

DAILY WOUND CARE OF NON-SUTURED AREA (DONOR SITE):

1. Remove bandage in 24 hours.
2. Using liquid antibacterial soap and water, gently cleanse the surgical wound using a clean soft cloth or clean fingers
and rinse off with water.
3. Let air dry for 10-15 minutes.
4. Cut Telfa pad to cover wound
5. Apply a very thin layer of Vaseline to Telfa pad, secure Telfa pad to skin with medical tape.
6. This process will be repeated daily until wound is completely healed.

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Sunscreen is an important tool in the fight against skin cancer, including melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. The American Academy of Dermatology recommends consumers choose a sunscreen which states on the label SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum (which means it protects the skin from ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays, both of which can cause cancer) and water resistant for up to 40 or 80 minutes.