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*Mohs micrographic surgery and dermatologic surgery*

## Stapled Wound Care for \_\_\_\_\_

- No strenuous activity for 48 hours. Resume moderate activity in 48 hours. No heavy exercising until you are seen for follow up in one week.
- Take Extra Strength Tylenol (500 mg) or Acetaminophen as needed for discomfort, 1-2 tabs every 4-6 hours.
- Do not take any extra aspirin or anti-inflammatory products (Ibuprofen, Motrin, Advil, Aleve) for 1 week after surgery.
- Do not drink alcoholic beverages for 48 hours.
- Keep the white pressure bandage in place for 24 hours. If the bandage becomes blood tinged or loose, reinforce it with gauze and tape.  
(Refer to the reverse side of this page for management of bleeding).
- Remove the white bandage in 24 hours and begin wound care as follows:
  1. Rinse the stapled area with tap water and mild soap. ( you may shower / bathe / shampoo normally)
  2. Dry wound with Q tip or gauze pad
  3. Apply Vaseline or Aquaphor Ointment to the staples.
    - Do **NOT** use Neosporin or Triple Antibiotic Ointment \*
    - It is OK to use Bacitracin or Polysporin for 1-2 weeks.
  4. Cover the wound with a bandaid or nonstick gauze pad and paper tape.
  5. Repeat wound care once a day until staples are removed.
- **PROTECT A FRESH SCAR FROM THE SUN.** Use a sunscreen with SPF of 30 or greater as well as barriers such as clothing or a wide-brimmed hat.



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### **BLEEDING:**

1. Use tightly rolled up gauze or cloth to apply direct pressure over the bandage for 20 minutes.
2. Reapply pressure for an additional 20 minutes if necessary
3. Call the office 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.
5. Begin wound care 24 hours after surgery as directed.

### **PAIN:**

1. Post operative pain should slowly get better, beginning the evening after surgery.
2. A sudden or severe increase in pain may indicate a problem. Call the office if this occurs.

### **SIGNS OF INFECTION:**

1. Watch for discharge, fevers, spreading redness or increased pain at the procedure site.
2. It usually takes 4-7 days for an infection to occur after a procedure.  
Call the office if any of the above occurs.

***In case of emergency phone: 317-859-8970***