

Dermatology & Skin Cancer Center, P.C.
2200 W. Hamilton Street, Suite 305
Allentown, PA 18104-6385
610-432-0200

GENERAL POST-OP INSTRUCTIONS

1. After surgery, please limit your activity for 48-72 hours. This helps prevent bleeding and infection.
2. Smoking impairs wound healing if more than ½ pack (10 cigarettes) per day is used.
3. Please keep the surgery site elevated as much as possible (raise area on an extra pillow for 72 hours).

WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS
for C&D, SHAVE BIOPSY OR SECOND INTENT HEALING

1. Keep the area dry and limit strenuous activity for 24 hours. On the next day following the procedure, begin cleaning the wound site as follows:
 - a. Clear away any drainage or crust from the area with hydrogen peroxide or warm soapy water using a clean gauze pad or Q-Tip®.
 - b. Apply mupirocin ointment or white petrolatum to the wound site.
 - c. Cover the surgery site with a clean Band-Aid® or a non-stick bandage.

Continue cleaning every day until the wound is completely healed. The bandage may be changed more often if it becomes soiled or wet.

2. Tylenol® or another non-aspirin pain reliever may be used to control any pain or discomfort following the procedure. If the pain becomes severe, please call our office immediately.
3. Mild bleeding can be controlled by applying firm, steady pressure with a clean gauze pad or washcloth for 10 to 15 minutes. If the bleeding does not stop or the area appears swollen, please call our office at 610-432-0200. If concern for the site arises after our office hours, please call 610-216-1047 to contact Dr. Brady.
4. Keeping a bandage on the wound prevents a scab from forming and allows the wound to heal faster. When you change the bandage, a small amount of drainage is expected. This is a liquefied scab. This drainage should decrease every day.
5. Your surgery site should be less painful every day. Please notify us at the numbers listed above if the area becomes red, swollen, warm or tender.
6. It is permissible to swim in a pool after 48 hours. Keep a Band-Aid® on the site while swimming and clean the site after leaving the pool. Avoid swimming in a lake or ocean until the site has healed.
7. Healing is based on the size of the wound and location. Surgical sites of the lower legs heal the slowest and it may take a month for biopsy/surgery sites to heal in this area.