

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

GENERAL POST-OP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Limit strenuous activity for the next week. This enhances graft survival and decreases post-operative bleeding and infection.
2. Smoking impairs wound healing and graft survival if more than ½ pack (10 cigarettes) per day is used.
3. Please keep graft area elevated as much as possible (raise the area on an extra pillow for the next week).

GRAFT WITH BOLSTER WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

GRAFT SITE

1. Keep the area dry and leave the dressing in place. On the day of your surgery you will have been scheduled to return to the office for a wound check and dressing change one or two days after surgery.

Begin cleaning the wound site *the day after we have changed the initial dressing* as follows:

- a. Keep the Vaseline® bolster that is sutured over the surgery site intact and dry.
- b. Clear away any drainage or crust from the perimeter with hydrogen peroxide or warm soapy water using a clean gauze pad or Q-Tip®.
- c. Apply mupirocin ointment (prescription given at time of surgery) or white petrolatum around the wound site.
- d. Cover the surgery site with a clean Band-Aid® or a non-stick bandage such as a Telfa® bandage which can be purchased at any drugstore.

Repeat cleaning every day until the bolster and sutures are removed. The bandage may be changed more often if it becomes soiled or wet. You should notify us if the bolster develops a foul odor.

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, constant steady pressure with a clean gauze pad 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.

DONOR SITE

1. Avoid getting the area wet for two days following the procedure. Please clean and redress the exposed area as instructed above. Since there is no bolster on this area, it is permissible to get this area wet after 2 days.

BOTH SITES

Your surgery sites should be less painful every day. Please notify us at the numbers listed above if either the graft or donor area becomes red, swollen, warm or tender.