

Dear

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request concerning dermatology department.

The Trust can provide the following information:

Do you have a dermatology department? **Yes** If no, this FOI does not apply to your organisation. If yes, please read below.

How many dermatology departments does your organisation have? **1**

For each dermatology department in your jurisdiction please could you answer the following questions.

Regarding post-operative instructions for patients undergoing skin surgery in your dermatology department:

1. Do you have any postoperative patient information leaflets? If yes, how many? **Yes 1**
2. If you answered yes to the above, please would you send all the current postoperative leaflets by e-mail?

Please see attachment

If you have any queries about this response please contact the information governance manager at foi@homerton.nhs.uk , in the first instance. If, following that, you still have any concerns, you may contact the Information Commissioner either by letter, FOI/EIR Complaints resolution, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SM9 5AF, or by email www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk to take them further.

Copyright Statement

The material provided is subject to the HUHFT's copyright unless otherwise indicated. Unless expressly indicated on the material to the contrary, it may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium, provided it is reproduced accurately and not used in a misleading manner. Where any of the copyright items are being re-published or copied to others, you must identify the source of the material and acknowledge the copyright status. Permission to reproduce material does not extend to any material accessed through the Publication Scheme that is the copyright of third parties. You must obtain authorisation to reproduce such material from the copyright holders concerned.

Yours sincerely

James Cook
Information Governance Administrator

Matthew Hall
Information Governance Manager (Deputy Caldicott Guardian)

Name:
DOB:
Hospital number:

Wound care instructions following minor surgery

After your surgery, a bandage may be placed over your dressing. This will help to prevent bleeding. Please follow these instructions over the next 7-14 days. They will help prevent any complications as your wound heals. Please take this information sheet with you when you attend your practice nurse appointment. Please phone your GP surgery to make an appointment.

Dear Practice nurse,
This patient had dermatology minor surgery on Please remove sutures in days.
Special instructions:

Thank you. If you require further information please contact the dermatology department on the above number.

For the first 24 hours after your surgery:

1. Leave the dressing and bandage on, and keep it dry. If it should become loose, you may tape it, but do not take it off.
2. Relax and take it easy. No vigorous exercise or heavy lifting. This could cause the wound to bleed. If the wound is on your leg, keep it elevated.
3. Post-operative pain is usually mild. You may take *paracetamol*, 2 tablets every 6 hours as needed. Do not take aspirin or any anti-inflammatory drugs such as ibuprofen unless the doctor has allowed it.
4. You may see a small amount of drainage or blood on your dressing/bandage. This is normal. However, if the drainage or bleeding continues and saturates the bandage please do as follows
 - Apply firm pressure with a gauze swab or clean tissues/kitchen towel over the top of the dressing/bandage for 15 minutes
 - If bleeding still continues, apply an ice pack for 15 minutes to the area. A simple ice pack can be made from placing a bag of frozen peas into a dry plastic bag (this avoids wetting the dressing/bandage)
 - If bleeding still continues, go to the nearest Accident and Emergency department.

24 hours after your surgery:

1. Carefully remove the dressing/bandage. If it seems very sticky or difficult to get off, you may need to soak it in the shower.
2. After the dressing is off, you may shower and get the wound wet. However, do not let the forceful stream of the shower hit the wound directly.
3. Follow these simple wound care and dressing change instructions
 - Once a day clean the wound gently with warm soapy water. You can use a cotton bud if you wish.
 - Pat the wound dry.
 - Apply a thin layer of Vaseline to the wound.
 - Cover the wound with a plaster.
 - Repeat this every day until your stitches are removed by the practice nurse.

What is normal:

- The first couple of days your wound may be tender and may bleed slightly when doing wound care
- There may be swelling and bruising around the wound, especially if it is near the eyes or other delicate area
- The area around your wound may be numb for several weeks or even months
- You may experience sharp pain or itching as the wound heals
- The stitch line will look dark pink at first and the edges of the wound will be reddened. This will fade gradually.

Seek medical advice if:

- You have bleeding that will not stop after applying pressure and ice
- You have excessive pain
- You have signs or symptoms of infection such as fever, redness, warmth or foul smelling draining from the wound
- You have questions or are not sure how to take care of the wound.