Skin Surgery post-operative instructions

Following your minor skin surgery today please read the following advice.

If you have any post-operative concerns, then please contact the Maxillofacial department on: **0300 131 4500 extension 771756.**

Note: this number is for use Monday-Friday 9am -12:30pm and 1:30pm-5pm. For out of hours advice please call 111 or attend your local A&E department.

1. **Keep wound(s) dry for the next 48 hours.** After 48 hours – unless instructed otherwise – you can wet the area as normal when having a bath/shower

2. **Take regular pain relief** (such as paracetamol) shortly after surgery and for the following 2-3 days as required. Please avoid Aspirin as this can cause bleeding

3. Apply a smear (half a pea size) of ointment (chloramphenicol) to the wound 2 x daily for 1 week with clean hands, as directed.

4. If bleeding occurs, use the gauze provided to apply **firm pressure** for 10 minutes. Damp the gauze slightly before use. Repeat if necessary. If bleeding still hasn't stopped after 20 minutes of pressure please call or attend A&E.

5. Unless you have been advised otherwise, **your stitches will dissolve**. This can take anywhere from 1-3 weeks.

6. You will receive a follow up appointment to discuss the results of your procedure. Please see below

   Follow up in ……. Weeks
   Telephone or Face to Face *(please circle)*

Important information

This patient information is for guidance purposes only and is not provided to replace professional clinical advice from a qualified practitioner.

Your comments

We are always interested to hear your views about our leaflets. If you have any comments, please contact the patient experience team on 0300 131 4784 or esh-tr.patientexperience@nhs.net.

Hand hygiene

We are committed to maintaining a clean, safe environment. Hand hygiene is very important in controlling infection. Alcohol gel is widely available at the patient bedside for staff use and at the entrance of each clinical area for visitors to clean their hands before and after entering.

Other formats

If you require any of our leaflets in alternative formats, such as large print or alternative languages, please contact the Equality and Human Rights Department on 0300 131 4434 or esh-tr.AccessibleInformation@nhs.net

After reading this information are there any questions you would like to ask? Please list below and ask your nurse or doctor.

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Reference

The following clinicians have been consulted and agreed this patient information:

Mr C Surwald, Maxillofacial Consultant.
Mr M Shastri, Maxillofacial Consultant.

Next review date:	June 2027
Responsible clinician/author:	Dr Samantha Plant, Staff Grade Doctor Julia Cousins, Hannah Williams

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