DERMATOLOGY DEPARTMENT
Mark Jones M.D.

WOUND CARE AFTER SKIN SURGERY

For Questions or Concerns Call:
1. Office phone number 1-800-332-7156 or (406) 238-5566 Monday – Friday 8am-5pm.
2. Dr. Jones home number (406) 348-2668 or cell number (406) 850-2802 after hours and weekends.
3. If unable to reach Dr. Jones after hours, phone the call center at 1-800-332-7156 or (406) 238-2500 and ask to have his physician coverage contacted.

Dressing Changes:
1. Leave dressing on for 24 hours.
2. Remove dressing and clean gently with a mild soap and water, usually while in the shower or bath.
3. Apply a layer of Vaseline petroleum jelly over the entire wound.
4. You may then apply a small “Band-Aid” type dressing over the ointment if you want. It is important that the wound edges stay moist and a hard scab is not allowed to form.
5. Repeat this daily until the stitches are removed.

For Bleeding:
1. It is normal to have a few spots of dried blood on the dressing when it is removed.
2. If blood is running from the dressing, or if the wound continues to ooze, apply a steady FIRM pressure directly over the wound.
3. Do this for 15 minutes by the clock. NO PEEKING!
4. Release the pressure. If it is still bleeding, repeat the pressure for an additional 15 minutes.
5. If you have done this for a total of a ½ hour, and it is still bleeding, please call our office.

For Pain:
1. Most people do not require any pain medications after skin surgery.
2. Ice in a plastic bag with a cloth towel wrapped around it, placed over the wound for 15-20 minutes per hour is a good method to reduce pain and swelling.
3. Regular or extra strength Tylenol may be used immediately following surgery, follow package directions for dosage.
4. If the pain does not continue to lessen over the hours or days following surgery, it may be an indication there may be a problem. Please call our office.

For Infection:
1. It is normal to have slight redness around the wound edges while the stitches are still in place.
2. If redness or pain is increasing during the days following surgery, this could be a sign of infection.
3. If you develop fevers or chills, or red streaks running from the wound, please call our office.

Additional Instructions:

Return for suture removal on:

**Please note if sutures are removed in a location other than this office, this may incur an office visit fee. This fee is not under the control of Dr. Jones.