



Wound Care Following a Shave Biopsy

What should I expect?

- The biopsy site will have a thin rim of redness and be tender to the touch for up to 2-3 weeks.
- Sometimes treated sites will begin to bleed 1-2 hours after the biopsy. If this happens, simply hold continuous firm pressure with a paper towel or gauze to the wound for 20 minutes without peeking. If the bleeding continues, repeat holding pressure for a second 20-minute period.
- Depending on the site of the biopsy, there may be some soreness at the treated site for 2-3 days. For most patients, taking an over the counter pain reliever such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin) will provide good pain relief.
- You will be contacted 7-10 days following the biopsy to review your results. If this does not happen, you must contact the office.

What should I do?

- Keep the bandage over the treated area overnight.
- In the morning, it is safe to remove the bandage and shower. Just allow the soapy water to gently run over the wound. Do not rub or aggressively clean the biopsy site.
- Apply Vaseline or Aquaphor healing ointment to the biopsy site 3-4x/ day for three days. The ointment will help the wound heal more quickly and minimize scarring. We prefer Vaseline or Aquaphor to antibiotic ointment due to the increase in allergic reactions to antibiotic ointments such as Neosporin.
- You may choose to cover the wound with a bandage to keep the ointment from staining your clothing.

Who do I contact with questions?

- During regular office hours, Monday through Friday from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M., please call us at: 215-390-1449 (phone number is for both Willow Grove and King of Prussia).
- For non-urgent matters, you may also reach us by e-mail at nurse@keyderm.com **If you do not hear back from us via email by 2:00 pm, please call the office**