



## **WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPEN WOUNDS AFTER MOHS SURGERY**

**After 24 hours** remove the bandage. Begin daily cleaning and dressing changes as follows:

- Remove old dressing.
- Clean area with plain tap water using a Q-tip or sterile gauze pad. **Do not use soap, alcohol or peroxide to clean wound.**
- Dry with a Q-tip or sterile gauze pad.
- Apply antibiotic ointment (**Polysporin or Bacitracin**) over entire wound.
- Cover the wound with a Band-Aid or sterile non-stick gauze (**Telfa**) and paper tape (**Micropore**).

**Repeat these instructions at least once a day until the wound has healed completely (usually three to six weeks).**

- If you notice bleeding from the wound, apply firm continuous pressure for twenty minutes. If bleeding does not stop after pressure is applied, call our office at the number below.
- Mild swelling and redness around the wound is normal. Usually discomfort is mild and easily controlled with Tylenol. Call our office if you observe significant swelling, redness, pain or fever.

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There is an old wives tale that a wound heals better when left open to the air. In fact, a wound heals faster and with a better cosmetic result if kept clean and covered with ointment and a bandage.

It is OK to get the wound wet. Leave the old dressing on the wound while washing or showering. After your shower, clean the wound and apply a new dressing as described above.

We recommend the use of Polysporin or Bacitracin ointment rather than Neosporin because a large number of people will develop allergic reactions to Neosporin.

**If you have any questions, please call us at (909) 981-8929.**

If you are unable to contact us in an emergency, please go to your local hospital emergency department.