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Post-Procedure Care of Punch Biopsy Site

Directions: Keep the biopsy site dry overnight. Remove the band-aid or dressing the following day and gently clean the area with soap and water (may be done while taking a shower or bath). Carefully remove any crusted material in the wound. Hydrogen peroxide, diluted half-strength with water, rolled over the wound with a Q-Tip can help lift crust off the wound. Apply Bacitracin or Polysporin ointment twice daily and continue to cover with a band-aid until sutures are removed. Sutures are removed in 7 days on the face, scalp, neck, and chest and 10-14 days on the trunk, and extremities. Suture removals are done at 12:45pm and 4:00pm Monday through Thursday with no appointment needed. Do not shave over a sutured wound. For mild to moderate discomfort, we recommend Tylenol (1-2 tablets every 6 hours).

Normal Findings: Redness and slight tenderness around the operative site for a few days are normal. Formation of yellowish crust in the biopsy site is normal, but removal is advisable to prevent a delay in healing time. Hydrogen peroxide, diluted half-strength with water, rolled over the wound with a Q-Tip can help gently lift crust off the wound.

Abnormal Findings: If the area: becomes progressively more tender, swells markedly, opens up, begins to drain with pus or blood, is dark red color around the site, warm to the touch, or a fever of ≥ 100 F develops, contact our office at 406.586-7873. If after normal office hours, you may contact Dr. Mann at 406.581.7482.

We will contact you within 7-10 days with the pathology results.