

# BIOPSY AFTERCARE

Please read the information below which will help you in your recovery from the procedure performed by your doctor today. Biopsy is a minor surgery used to remove or treat a suspicious skin lesion. The wound should heal quickly with minimal to no scarring.

## What procedure has been performed today?

**Shave biopsy / Curettage / Cautery**

Your doctor shaved the whole lesion off. The treated area is similar to a graze with no sutures required.

**Punch biopsy**

Your doctor cut into the top layer of the lesion. The treated area is a small 2 to 4mm diameter hole which might require a suture.

## How to handle and remove the dressing

Your dressing can be removed after \_\_\_\_\_ days.

**IMPORTANT:** Never leave a wet dressing on a wound. If the initial surface dressing gets wet, it must be changed to minimise the risk of infection. If bleeding occurs, apply pressure for 15 to 20 minutes.

You have one of the following dressing types.

- Splash-proof dressing:** This dressing is not water-proof. Do not let the water run directly onto the dressing. Put some cling film or a plastic bag over the dressing to protect it. You can shower as usual but avoid baths or swimming.
- Dry dressing:** Please do not wet this dressing. If it does get wet, it must be changed to avoid infection.
- Skin tape dressing:** This dressing is porous and is allowed to get wet. To remove the skin tape, soften it first by using water or a cooking oil.

**If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact us.**