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MT. LEBANON DERMATOLOGY, PC

**Wound Care after Treatment of Skin Cancer**  
**(Curettage, Excision, Electrodesiccation, and/or Cryosurgery)**

Keep the area clean & dry for 24 hrs. After 24 hours, remove the bandage. Begin daily dressing changes.

1. You may take a shower or
2. Wash your hands with soap and water.
3. Remove the dressing.
4. Clean the area with a Q-tip and tap water.
5. Thoroughly dry the area with a Q-tip.
6. Apply a small amount of Polysporin or Bacitracin ointment. Do NOT use Neosporin ointment
7. Cover the wound with a band-aid or a sterile non-stick gauze pad and micropore paper tape.

Do NOT use medicated band-aids.

**Bleeding:**

1. Use a tightly rolled gauze or cloth to apply direct pressure over the bandage or 20 minutes. Apply for an additional 20 minutes if necessary.
2. Call the office or go to the nearest emergency room if pressure fails to stop the bleeding.
3. Begin wound care 24 hours after the surgery as directed.

It is an old wives tale that a wound heals better when it is exposed to the air and allowed to dry out. The wound will heal faster, with a better cosmetic result, if it is kept moist and covered with a bandage. DO NOT LET THE WOUND DRY OUT.

Call the office if signs of infection occur (red streaks, increased pain more than 24 hours post-op, or heavy dark, yellowish discharge)

**If you have had Cryosurgery (freezing)**

1. You may experience swelling, blistering and/or drainage. This is normal and will subside. If on the head or face, elevate it.
2. You may experience a burning sensation for up to 24 hours.

Supplies Needed:

- A) Q-tips
- B) Polysporin or Bacitracin Ointment
- C) Band-aids or non-stick gauze pads and paper tape.