

Your child's dermatology surgery: aftercare advice

Information for patients, parents and guardians

Addressograph: _____	Operating surgeon: _____
_____	Date of procedure: _____
Patient name: _____	Operation/procedure carried out: _____
Date of birth: _____	_____
Hospital number: _____	_____

How to look after your child's wound

- Remove the dressing after _____ hours (wash your hands first).
- Then apply clean Vaseline once or twice daily.
- **If the wound bleeds:** Apply a pad of gauze or linen (such as a clean towel), firmly and evenly over the dressing, for ten minutes continuously.
- Contact your child's GP surgery if your child experiences any redness or swelling, the wound bleeds excessively or for a long period of time, or you have any other concerns.

Additional advice

Depending on the location of the surgery, there may be some additional things to consider. If the surgery was on your child's:

- **Face:** They should avoid hot or spicy food or drinks on the first day.
- **Near the mouth:** Your child will need to eat soft or sloppy foods which require little chewing for two days after their operation.
- **Lower leg/foot/ankle:** Your child will need to rest for up to two weeks, with their foot elevated as much as possible.

Pain relief

There may be some discomfort at the wound site when the local anaesthetic wears off (usually after two to four hours). If pain relief is required, we usually recommend paracetamol (Calpol). The dose will depend on your child's age and weight. **Always follow the advice on the packet and never exceed the maximum dose.**

Stitches

Make an appointment with the practice nurse at your child's GP surgery to have your child's stitches removed.

Number of external stitches: _____

Remove in: _____ days

Further information

Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call us for advice.

John Atwell day ward: **023 8120 6157**

Dermatology secretaries: **023 8054 0205**

If you need a translation of this document, an interpreter or a version in large print, Braille or on audiotape, please telephone **023 8120 4688** for help.

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