



affiliated with



Department of Dermatology
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Wound Care Instructions

Please observe the following guidelines to help your surgical wounds heal quickly, successfully and with less scarring:

Your bandage consists of 2 parts:

1. **First**, directly over your stitches, we placed a piece of brown tape. This brown tape stays in place until you return to the clinic to have the stitches removed. We will remove the brown tape for you. You may see dried blood underneath the tape but this is expected and you should refrain from removing the tape. This brown tape is resilient to water and it is okay if it gets wet in showers, but do not immerse into water (i.e. bath tub, hot tub, swimming pool) or scrub the tape off. If the brown tape comes off before your stitch removal appointment, you will have to take over wound care. In that case you will want to apply Vaseline and a Band-Aid to the surgical site, changing it daily until you return to have your stitches removed.
2. **Second**, on top of the brown tape, we have placed a pressure bandage to help prevent bleeding. The pressure bandage consists of white gauze and white tape. If at all possible, keep the pressure bandage dry and in place for 24 hours after surgery. After 24 hours, gently take off all the white bandaging while leaving on the brown tape. There is no wound care needed unless the tape comes off before your stitches removal appointment.

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