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## EXCISION POST-OPERATIVE WOUND CARE

**Keep the area clean and dry. The dressing we applied in the office can remain in place for the first 24 hours.**

- Remove the old dressing/bandaid. If it is stuck to the wound you may loosen it by getting it wet with clean water and then removing the dressing.
- Gently wash the area with soap and clean water, pat dry. Do not try to remove small scabs that may be attached to the stitches.
- Apply a protective ointment (Aquaphor, Vaseline are examples) and cover with a bandaid or gauze and tape.
- Sometimes there will be non-dissolvable sutures on the top layer of skin, which will need to be removed in 7-14 days. Your provider will notify you of the exact time frame for which they should be removed.
- **NOTE:** although it is OK if the wound gets wet after the first day (for example, it is fine if it gets wet in the shower), it should NOT be immersed in water until after the stitches are removed (no swimming, hot tubs or baths).
- **NOTE:** The wound should not hurt but it may be slightly sore or tender to touch.

**Please contact our office if any of the following occur:**

- Pain at or around the wound site
- Redness extending from the edge of the wound
- If the sutures break, fall out, or the wound opens
- Swelling of the wound or the area around it