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POSTOPERATIVE WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

IF SURGICAL STERI-STRIP TAPE IS USED:

Avoid getting the Steri-Strip tape wet. The Steri-Strip tape should remain intact until removed at the one week follow-up visit. If the tape begins to curl at the edges, these sections may be gently trimmed with scissors. At the on-week follow up appointment, the sutures will be removed and the Steri-Strip tape may be replaced.

The second Steri-Strip should remain intact for one week. You may remove the second Steri-Strip after one week and clean the area with warm water with a small amount of soap, just enough to make the finger slippery. Keep the area moist with a vitamin E cream for an additional 2 to 3 weeks. Protect the area from the sun for the next year using a sun protector factor of 30 or higher.

IF DERMABOND IS USED:

The film from the Dermabond will stay present for approximately 5-10 days and will naturally begin to fall off the skin. Do not scratch, rub, or pick at the Dermabond adhesive film. Do not apply tape directly to Dermabond. Do not apply ointment of any type to the Dermabond. You may occasionally and briefly wet you wound in the shower or bath. Do not soak or scrub you wound. You may gently blot the area after showering. After the Dermabond Sloughs off, keep area moist with vitamin E cream for 2-3 weeks. Protect the area from sun for the next year using sun protection factor of 30 or higher. If any aspect of the healing is unsatisfactory one year postoperatively, please contact us so that we may re-examine the area.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR WOUNDS:

Please contact our nursing staff if you have any questions regarding your wound (309-585-0370). **Some numbness is common. We expect this area to be redder than** surrounding skin and possibly more swollen. This area should become lighter than the surrounding skin over the course of one year.