

Sutured Wound Care

Over the next 24-48 hours you may see bloody drainage on the bandage, this is normal and is expected. If there is bleeding—Do Not Panic-. Simply remove the bandage and place a clean gauze pad over the wound and hold firm, continuous pressure on the wound for 20 minutes. If after 20 minutes the area is still bleeding, call the office for further instructions.

Day of Surgery:

1. Apply ice to the area every hour for 5-10 minutes. You will continue applying ice in the interval for the first 24-48 hours. Apply ice will help reduce swelling and bruising caused from the local anesthetic.
2. Take Tylenol for pain. Avoid aspirin for 24 hours
3. Restart your Coumadin/Plavix/Pradaxa on _____. Restart your Aspirin/Vitamin E on _____

Tomorrow:

1. Remove the bandage. Expect the wound to be slightly swollen, reddened and bruised. There will be bloody drainage on the bandage. If your surgery was near your eye, expect the area to be swollen and darkened.
2. Shower as usual. Water will not hurt the wound, in fact, this is a very gentle way to clean the area.
3. Dry the wound
4. Apply Bacitracin/Aquaphor/Vaseline/Bactroban (mupirocin is the generic name). Do not substitute with triple antibiotic ointment.
5. Re-apply the ointment at least 4-5 times a day. It is important that the wound not be allowed to dry out or crust over.
6. It is not necessary to cover the wound with a bandage during the day as long as the stitch line is covered with antibiotic ointment. However, we do recommend that you cover the area at night to avoid any accidental trauma during sleep.

Note:

Infection can develop in the wound. Signs of infection are fever greater than 101 degrees, extensive tenderness or pain, excessive drainage or pus. If this occurs call the office for further instructions.

Prescriptions are sent electronically to your pharmacy at the end of our business day.

Please call the office at (401) 751-7546 if you have any questions or concerns.