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INSTRUCTION FOR CARE OF PUNCH BIOPSY WITHOUT SUTURES

Keep the area clean and dry for 24 hours. After 24 hours, remove the pressure bandage. Begin daily dressing changes.

1. You may take a shower or thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water.
2. Remove the dressing.
3. Clean the area with Q-tip and tap water. Dry the area with a q-tip or sterile gauze pad.
4. Apply Polysporin ointment or Bacitracin ointment. Do **NOT** use Neosporin ointment.
5. Cover the wound with a band-aid or a sterile non-stick gauze pad and micropore paper tape. Do NOT use medicated band-aids.

Bleeding:

1. Use a tightly rolled gauze or cloth to apply direct pressure over the bandage or 20 minutes. Apply for an additional 20 minutes if necessary.
2. Call the office or go to the nearest emergency room if pressure fails to stop the bleeding.
3. Begin wound care 24 hours after the surgery as directed.

*It is an old wives tale that a wound heals better when it is exposed to air and allowed to dry out. The wound will heal faster with a better cosmetic result if it is kept moist with ointment and covered with a bandage. **DO NOT LET THE WOUND DRY OUT.***

Supplies Needed: A) Q-tips
 B) Polysporin Ointment or Bacitracin Ointment
 C) Band-aids or non-stick gauze pads and paper tape.