

**Post-Operative Instructions Following- Excision of
Skin Lesion, Cyst, Mass or Skin Graft Placement**
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Call the office at 793-0475, the day after surgery, to schedule your follow up appointment with Dr. Garcia. Follow up will be 4-5 days after a skin graft or 7-14 days dependent upon location of surgery. The office will assist you with your follow up when you call.

1. Your incision has been closed with either sutures (stitches) or with a skin graft placed. If a skin graft was placed it is covered by a yellow bolster dressing. Any skin graft area should remain dry until the yellow dressing is removed by our office.
2. If you have a flesh colored steri-strip covering the surgical incision, you should begin washing the area gently with soap and water and then pat dry, 24 hours after surgery. We will remove the steri-strip at your follow up visit. If the steri-strip falls off, then cover with a Band-Aid for protection, if able to. Change the Band-Aid more often to maintain a dry environment. Remove the Band-Aid before showering to allow for washing to the area.
3. Protect the area from any excessive rubbing or friction.
4. Refrain from submersing the incision in standing water, like dishwater, swimming pools, tub bathing, or hot tubs until the sutures have been removed. Showering and washing the incision is fine as long as you do not have a yellow dressing covering a skin graft.
5. Drainage from the wound can be experienced over the first few days after surgery as well as some swelling and bruising. Apply pressure to the wound for 10-15 minutes as needed for any excessive drainage. A cool compress can be applied for 15 minutes three times a day if you are concerned about the swelling.
6. Extra strength Tylenol, Aleve or Ibuprofen for any discomfort is helpful for pain control. Narcotic pain medication may have been prescribed for you but is not necessary to take.
7. If an antibiotic has been prescribed to you, take the full prescription until it is finished.
8. You may return to work 24 hours after surgery and may drive at that time as long as you are not taking any narcotic pain medication.

Call the office at 793-0475 if you experience any increased redness, drainage or odor from the incision or if you develop a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater.