

## CARE OF BIOPSY EXCISION

- Please remove the bandage 24 hours following the procedure. Once the bandage has been removed, you may begin taking showers.
- Begin once-a-day cleansing of the wound, using mild soap and water. Do this using a Q-tip or clean gauze. Gently cleanse to remove any dried blood or excess crusting; rinse well with tap water. Do this until there is no fresh or dried blood. Continue cleansing with a mild soap or water until the wound is completely healed.
- Adequate cleansing will prevent a thick scab from forming. This is important since a thick scab is destructive to good wound healing and may lead to a more noticeable scar. The less stretch and tension you place on a healing wound with activity, the better it will heal.
- After cleansing, apply a coating of Vaseline or Neosporin. **Keep ointment on the wound at all times until the stitches are removed.** Apply a bandage over the wound for the first 5 to 7 days.
- Most wounds may be left uncovered after the stitches are removed. However, wounds that are on an area of the body that becomes easily irritated should be covered with a bandage during the daytime for an addition 5 to 7 days. This bandage can be removed at night.
- Allow any scab formation to fall off on its own. Do not pick at it.
- Healing usually occurs in 10 to 14 days.
- The results of your biopsy should be available at the time of your suture removal.
- Call Dr. Blickenstaff's office at (208)377-0820 if you notice any of the following: severe inflammation (spreading redness, tenderness, swelling, or warmth that lasts more than 24 hours), red streaks near the wound, increased bloody drainage, green or yellow drainage, or a foul smell coming from the wound or a fever that continues for more than 24 hours. If you have any questions or concerns, please call us.
- **ADDED NOTE; YOUR SPECIMEN IS BEING SENT TO AN OUTSIDE LABORATORY FOR EVALUATION. YOU WILL RECEIVE A SEPARATE BILL FOR THEIR SERVICES.**