



POST-PROCEDURE CARE - Skin Grafts

Graft site (where your skin cancer was located): Leave the bandage in place, clean, and dry. We will remove it at your next visit. It is very important this bandage stays in place and intact. You can reinforce it if needed or contact the office if it requires adjustment.

- **Donor site (where the skin was removed to repair your skin cancer wound): Keep bandage dry and in place for 48 hours.**
- On the second day after surgery, remove the white bandage and tape.
- Wash the area with clean hands and soapy water. Pat dry.
- Massage a generous layer of Vaseline/Aquaphor into the incision in a circular motion with your fingers
- Wash the area once a day. Apply Vaseline/Aquaphor 2-3 times daily for two to three weeks.
- Your goal is to keep the area clean, free of crusting, and moist at all times.

Activity

- No lifting over 10 pounds, strenuous sports, exercising, or bending at the waist for 1 week.
- For areas on the face, head, or neck, chew softer foods for 24–48 hours.

Bleeding

- A small amount of bleeding on the bandage is normal.
- If blood saturates the bandage, apply firm direct pressure with fingers or open palm directly over the bandage for 20 min.
- Do not use ice to apply pressure.

Tips

- Rest and minimize activity.
- Swelling, redness and bruising around the incision and surrounding areas are normal and typically increase for 48 hours after the procedure.
- For the first 24 hours, apply an ice pack (wrapped in a lightweight towel) over the wound for 20 min at a time as often as you'd like.
- Take Tylenol (acetaminophen) and/or Advil (ibuprofen) as needed for pain.
- Your incision will look red, lumpy, bumpy, and swollen for several weeks.

When to call our office

- If bleeding does not stop after 20 min of firm pressure.
- If Tylenol and ibuprofen do not relieve your pain.

For emergency after-hour issues, call (585) 222-1400. Press 1 for Dr. Ibrahim. Press 2 for Dr. Sipprell. You must leave a voicemail including the patient's full name, date of birth and best phone number to be reached.

You may send photos by texting (585) 449-4146 or emailing info@rochesterdermsurgery.com

Please include the patient's full name, date of birth, and question or reason for inquiry.

These are monitored only during business hours.