

OPEN/GRANULATING WOUND

Occasionally, wounds are left open when it is determined that this is the best option for wound healing, we are waiting for a final pathology report, and/or we have planned a delayed closure of the wound.

What should I do right after surgery?

If there is any bleeding, apply firm, CONTINUOUS pressure to the area for 20 minutes. If this does not stop the bleeding, call the office or report to an emergency room.

Do not take aspirin or aspirin-containing products for seven days after surgery unless prescribed by your doctor. Avoid alcohol consumption.

Elevate the area where the surgery was performed as much as possible.

No heavy lifting, bending over, or vigorous exercising that might put the area under additional stress and interfere with proper healing for the next 7 days.

Remember that full maturation of the wound usually takes eight to twelve months, and that the initial pink color of the wound will ultimately turn white.

Remember to return to the clinic when scheduled so the sutures can be removed.

How do I change the dressing?

Our dressing should remain in place for 24 hours.

After 24 hours, clean the wound once daily using gauze or washcloth with gentle soap and water or water mixed w/equal parts white vinegar. Use gauze or washcloth to gently clean wound, do not scrub. May get wound wet/clean while in shower.

Is there anything I should look for?

Observe the wound every day for extreme tenderness or redness, which would suggest infection, and notify us if either of these should develop.

You should also notify us immediately if you notice any strong odor, pus coming from the wound, red streaks, elevated temperature, pain not relieved by Tylenol, or if you develop a fever or chills.

If you are worried by the appearance of the biopsy site, or if you have any questions or concerns, please call the office. LEBANON- 615.449.5771 and HERMITAGE- 615.964.5941