

POST BIOPSY INSTRUCTIONS:

A skin lesion biopsy is when a small amount of skin is removed so it can be examined. The skin is tested to look for skin conditions or diseases. A skin biopsy can help Dr. Wagner diagnose or rule out problems such as skin cancer or psoriasis.

There are different types of skin biopsies.

- Shave Biopsy: A small blade or razor is used to remove or scrape the outermost layers of skin. All or part of the lesion is removed. You will not need stitches.
- Punch Biopsy: A skin punch tool is used to remove deeper layers of skin. The area removed is about the shape and size of a pencil eraser. It includes all or part of the lesion. You may need stitches to close the area.
- Excision: A larger area is removed to remove positive margins. A layered closure is performed.

Dr. Wagner has performed a skin biopsy or excision to help diagnose the cause of a skin rash, or to determine if a skin growth or lesion is a skin cancer, or to completely remove a lesion. We will notify you of the results and let you know if further treatment is required.

Risks may include infection or scarring. The goal is to keep the area clean and dry. If you have stitches, you will return to our office to have them removed.

Follow these instructions after you surgery.

1. Avoid any trauma to the site.
2. Allow the bandage we place on the wound to remain for 24 hours. After 24 hours, you may cleanse the area with soap and water. Avoid soaking the wound. Dry the area immediately after cleansing.
3. Apply Polysporin ointment to the area once a day. Keep the wound covered with a Band-Aid. Change the Band-Aid once a day. Do this until the wound is healed.
4. If you have any discomfort, you may take 2 Tylenol or 2 Ibuprofen every 4-6 hours.
5. Notify the physician if any of the following symptoms occur.
 - Bleeding that does not stop after 20 minutes of continuous pressure.
 - Discolored drainage from the wound.
 - Fever over 101 degrees F.
6. NO SWIMMING or HOT TUBBING until sutures are removed.

NORMAL OFFICE HOURS ARE 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM MONDAY – THURSDAY.

Please direct your questions or concerns to our nurse line at (314) 434-1111 ext. 114

Notes: