

Dermatology Biopsy Results

- We will inform you of your biopsy result by text message to your mobile phone
- We will inform you of your biopsy result by post

If your biopsy result requires further action, we will call you directly.

Biopsy results take 6-8 weeks to be processed, this can sometimes be more delayed due to the complex nature of this clinical work.

Please contact the South Lakes Dermatology Service if you have not had your results after 8 weeks, on 01539 885622.

Feedback

We appreciate and encourage feedback. Please leave a review of our service at: www.iwantgreatcare.org/gpsurgeries/south-lakes-dermatology-service



Scan here

Contact Us



01539 885622



www.southlakesdermatology.co.uk



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Information Following Minor Skin Surgery

Dermatology

South Lakes Dermatology Service

Curettage and Cautery and Shave Excision

The skin lesion you had has been treated by curette and cautery or shave excision.

This means that the abnormal or diseased area of skin has been scraped or shaved off and the base of the area has been heated to stop bleeding. The resulting raw area will heal from below over the next 7-10 days.

No stitches have been used. If a dressing has been applied, this can be removed after 2 days. If it is sticking to the wound, the dressing can be moistened with water which may ease removal.

A small amount of antiseptic can be applied to the wound if the area appears moist or infected and dressings can be reapplied. Either a plaster or a dry dressing secured by tape can be used, if required. Change these dressings every 1-2 days until the wound dries. When the wound is dry, leave the area open. After a week or so, the scab will drop off.

The healed scar will be pink at first then become white after 4-6 months. It will be more susceptible to sunburn so use a sun block when its sunny.

Punch Biopsy

A small sample of skin has been removed and the wound may have been closed by a stitch or a seaweed (kaltostat) dressing.

Your stitches will need to be removed in days. Please keep the wound clean and dry.

If a seaweed dressing has been used you may remove the dressing in 2-3 days. If the dressing has stuck to the wound please leave this in place for up to a week. After this time, use water to release it. The area will slowly heal over the next 4-6 weeks.

You have had a local anaesthetic to numb the area. This will wear off after 2-3 hours.

Paracetamol, 2 tablets up to 4 times a day can be taken for pain relief.

Please arrange with your GP for stitch removal.

Excision Biopsy

Your skin lesion has been cut out and the skin stitched together in two layers. Adhesive steristrips may have been applied for extra support.

Your stitches need to be removed in days.

You have had a local anaesthetic to numb the area; this will wear off in 2-3 hours. **Paracetamol**, 2 tablets up to 4 times a day, can be used for pain relief.

The dressing applied after the operation can be left in place for 2-5 days. You can gently allow water or saline over the wound to help remove bacteria and dried crust that forms. The wound does not have to be covered, but for convenience you can use an ordinary dressing.

As far as possible keep the operated area elevated e.g. your head on an additional pillow, your leg or arm raised when resting. Whilst the scar is healing, avoid undue tension to the surrounding skin especially if the excision was on the back, shoulders or over joints. Avoid heavy gardening or weightlifting!

The scar will be pink at first then fade to a white line after 4-6 months.

If you have any signs of wound infection, contact your GP for treatment.