

Aftercare

Please leave the dressing in place for 24 hours. After this time it may be removed.

You may have a bath or shower, but avoid soaking the area for long periods.

Pain Relief

Once the local anaesthetic has worn off, the treated area may be uncomfortable.

Paracetamol or your usual analgesic (pain killer) should be sufficient to ease this.

Follow up Plan

Any lesion that is removed is sent to the laboratory for testing.

The doctor will send the results to you and your GP.

Another clinic appointment will be made if necessary.

You can contact your doctors secretary on the number ticked below:

01744 646609 - Dr

01744 646610 - Dr

01744 646613 - Dr

01744 646614 - Dr

01744 646688 - Dr



St Helens and Knowsley
Teaching Hospitals
NHS Trust

Curette and Cautery

This leaflet can be made available in alternative languages / formats on request.

如有需要，本传单可提供其他语言/版式
此單張的其他語言/格式版本可按要求提供

Na żądanie ta ulotka może zostać udostępniona w innych językach/formatach.

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Document Number: STHK0917
Version: 4
Review date: 01 / 09 / 2024

Reasons for & Benefits of the Procedure

To remove the lesion to establish a diagnosis that, if necessary appropriate treatment can be given.

Consequences of not having the procedure.

If you decide not to have this procedure we will not be able to establish a diagnosis and the lesion may increase in size.

Medication

Please bring a list of any medication you may be taking, and tell the doctor/nurse if you take Aspirin, Warfarin or any other medication that thins your blood.

Allergies

If you have any allergies especially to Latex, local anaesthetic or medication please tell the doctor/nurse.

Cardiac Pacemaker

Please tell the doctor/nurse if you have a Cardiac pacemaker or any other electrical device fitted.

Procedure

Your skin lesion will be removed by a Procedure called Curettage and Cautery.

After obtaining consent the practitioner performing the procedure will inject some local anesthetic into the area surrounding the lesion to be removed.

This may be uncomfortable and cause a tingling sensation which may last a few moments. This will make the skin go numb so that you should feel no pain in that area during the procedure. You may feel some pressure, pulling and pushing in the area but it should not be painful.

The skin lesion is then 'scraped' or 'scooped' off using a curette. The wound surface is then cauterised with an electrosurgical unit (Hyfrecator / Cautery) to stop any bleeding.

A small dressing will be applied before you leave the department.

Risks of the Procedure Scarring

It is impossible to cut or curette the skin without scarring, the scar will usually be flat and similar in size to the original skin lesion.

Some people have an abnormal response to skin healing and may get a larger scar than usual (Keloid or Hypertrophic scarring). If this occurs see your GP.

Bleeding

If there is any bleeding apply firm pressure continually for 30 minutes to the wound, **Do not disturb the dressing.**

If bleeding continues after 30 minutes, seek medical advice or attend the NHS walk-in centre or go to your own GP.

Infection

If the wound becomes inflamed, painful or oozes this would suggest that it may have become infected.

You should contact your GP or NHS walk-in centre.