

## Aftercare

Please keep your wound clean, dry and covered with a dressing until stitches are removed.

## Or

After 3 days you can get your wound wet in the shower, wash with mild soap and warm water, pat dry ensuring it is completely dry and apply Vaseline ointment and a clean dressing until your sutures are removed.

## 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

You will be given information and instructions on the day of surgery of when and where your stitches will be removed.

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 .....

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St Helens and Knowsley  
Teaching Hospitals  
NHS Trust

## Excision of a Skin Lesion under Local Anaesthesia

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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## Reasons for and 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 tablets 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 Excision.

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.

Before cutting the lesion out the practitioner will test to make sure that the area is numb.

The lesion is cut out usually the same shape as a rugby ball.

Stitches are then put in to bring the two edges of the wound together.

Sometimes internal stitches are put in prior to closing the skin.

You do not need to worry about these as they will dissolve.

## Risks of the Procedure Scarring

It is impossible to cut out the skin without scarring, and the scar will be longer than the actual lesion being removed.

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.