After care

The nurse in dressing clinic will inform you when your wound(s) are completely healed. Once completely healed you can begin to wash the areas with a mild un-perfumed soap and pat dry with a clean towel. You will be shown how to massage the area twice a day with a moisturising cream.

Keep your healed area out of the sun or apply a total sun block for at least the next 2 summers as newly healed skin burns very easily in hot sun.

Avoid wearing tight clothing that may rub against the wounds.

Wear a good fitting **non-wired** bra, (your consultant will advise you), day and night for **4 weeks** following your operation.

Once the swelling has gone down and your stitches have been removed, you need to be professionally measured and fitted for a new bra. Some department stores can assist you with this.

Contact Details

Dressing Clinic: Community Nurse: 0151 430 1285 0151 290 2030

Whiston Hospital Warrington Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L35 5DR Telephone: 0151 426 1600



St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals

How to care for your Breast Augmentation (Enlargement) following discharge

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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Dressings

- If you have a dressing or tapes in place, please keep them clean, dry and undisturbed until your next dressing clinic appointment or visit from the Community Nurse.
- If you need a visit from a Community Nurse before you go to dressing clinic, one will be arranged for you and you will be given **7 days supply** of dressings to give to the Community Nurse.
- The Community Nurse may visit you in your home or you may be asked to attend your GP surgery. The Community Nurse will arrange this with you.

Please ensure hands are cleaned thoroughly if you or someone else needs to touch your wound at any time

Exercises

- If you have been given exercises to perform by a Physiotherapist, it is very important that you continue to do them as you were shown.
- Please **limit your activities** following your operation to those which do not cause you any discomfort.
- Avoid swimming and aerobics for **6-8 weeks** following your operation.
- Avoid crowded places where you could be knocked or pushed, for **2 weeks** following your operation.

Problems

Please contact the ward if you have any of the following problems:

- Hardness to the breasts.
- Swelling.
- Areas on the breasts which feels hot to touch and looks inflamed.
- A green/brown smelly discharge which comes through the dressings.
- Worsening pain which is not relieved by taking pain killers.
- Pain around the stitch lines or nipples.
- The dressings fall off.

Dressing Clinic

You will be given an appointment to attend Dressing Clinic.

It is very important that you keep this appointment

The telephone number for the dressing clinic is: 0151 430 1285

Please contact the clinic straight away if you will not be able to keep your appointment.

If you are expecting an Outpatient appointment but do not receive one, please contact your Consultant's secretary.

If an ambulance has been arranged for you to return to the dressing clinic, **please be ready 2 hours before** your appointment time.

This is because ambulances sometimes collect patients early and cannot wait for you to get ready.