



## Northern Arizona Dermatology Center

### POST BIOPSY WOUND CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Please keep the bandage that we place intact until your next shower or bath. At that time, cleanse the wound gently with soap and water and apply a small amount of Vaseline to the area once a day until healed. Keeping the wound moist with Vaseline will prevent a thick scab from forming, which allows the wound to heal quickly and will also minimize scarring. We prefer Vaseline to antibiotic ointments because some people are allergic to antibiotic ointments such as Neosporin.

Biopsy sites usually take 2-3 weeks to heal. During this time, you should expect to see a thin rim of redness around the edge of the biopsy site.

If the biopsy site is on your face and you do not wish to wear a bandage, it is especially important to keep the biopsy site covered with Vaseline at least 2-3 times per day.

In other locations, like the back, it will be easier to care for your biopsy site if it is allowed to dry out and form a scab. This is done by cleansing gently with soap and water but then leaving it uncovered instead of applying Vaseline and a bandage. This approach will delay healing and may result in a less desirable scar than when the wound is kept moist, but it will be easier to care for.

**If you have any questions or concerns, please call, and ask to speak with one of our nurses.**

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