



## Wound Care After a Biopsy

### *Caring for your Wound:*

- Keep the bandage placed at the time of the biopsy on and dry until the next morning.
- Then begin the following steps 2 times per day until the biopsy site is healed or until the stitches are removed. If you have stitches:
  - Wash the wound with tap water using a clean washcloth, gauze or Q-tip.
  - Pat dry with a clean towel or gauze.
  - Apply Aquaphor or Vaseline or, if prescribed by your doctor, Bactroban (Mupirocin) ointment and cover it with a Band-Aid or bandage cut to the size of your wound.

### *Important Points:*

- If you have stitches, avoid letting the biopsy site soak in water (i.e. avoid swimming and taking a bath) until the stitches are removed. If you have stitches, avoid heavy lifting and strenuous exercise until the stitches are removed.
- If you do not have stitches, you can go swimming but cover the site with a waterproof bandage. When you get out, take off the bandage, rinse with water, and apply ointment and a fresh Band-Aid or bandage as above.
- If you have any bleeding through the bandage, apply firm pressure for 20 minutes. If the bleeding persists, repeat. If the site is still bleeding, please call the office.

### *Please call the office if you have:*

- Chills of a temperature of 101°F (38.3°C) or higher.
- Any of the following symptoms at your wound or the area around it:
  - Increasing redness or pain.
  - Skin that is hot to the touch.
  - Yellowish drainage.
  - Bleeding that does not stop after applying pressure.
- Any questions or unexpected problems.