

# Patient information

## Dermatology

### What is it?

It is the diagnosis and treatment of skin disorders.

The surgery may involve removing a small sample of tissue, known as a biopsy; or removing the entire area of affected skin, known as an excision, under a local anaesthetic.

The tissue that has been removed will be sent to pathology for examination and the results will be given to you at a later date.

### Following your surgery

Stitches/staples will be removed by:

- your practice nurse on .....
- the dressings team on .....

Having your stitches/staples removed can be sore. Please take some simple painkillers such as Paracetamol before you attend to have them removed.

The operation site needs to be kept clean and dry. Please leave any dressing intact and follow the instructions written below.

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- Steristrips: leave intact for 1 week or until otherwise advised to remove

- It is quite normal to notice some bruising around the site.
- Should any bleeding occur, leave the dressing intact and apply gentle pressure with a clean cotton cloth (eg handkerchief) or tissue for 15 minutes.
- You may experience some mild to moderate pain. This can be relieved by taking painkillers such as paracetamol. **Avoid taking aspirin, ibuprofen and diclofenac as these may cause bleeding.**
- Do not use makeup, creams or any perfumed products near the wound until the stitches are removed / dissolved and / or the wound has fully healed. Thereafter sun block should be used when outside.

Special instructions .....

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Outpatient appointment .....

This will be sent to you.

### **Contact your GP or GP out-of-hours service if:**

- you experience severe pain
- your wound becomes red, hot and swollen as this may indicate an infection

If you require any further advice please contact the Martin Corke Day Surgery Unit on 01284 713050 between 7.45am and 8.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Outside of these hours please contact the surgical ward F5 on 01284 713262 and speak to the nurse in charge. Please have your hospital number on the discharge letter available.

Or NHS 111