

POST OPERATIVE CARE FLAP AND/OR GRAFT RECONSTRUCTION

Post op flap care:

- May remove dressing day after surgery **unless otherwise advised by Dr. Lohner**
- Keep wound clean and dry and apply new dressing if needed
- If there are steri-strips on the wound, do not remove. It is OK to get these wet, they may fall off on their own
- Take pain medication as needed
- Take antibiotic as directed
- May shower day after surgery

What to expect:

- Swelling and bruising can occur up to 48 to 72 hours post-op. Swelling and bruising may occur in areas adjacent to area of excision
- Moderate discomfort – take pain medication as directed
- Constipation may occur with narcotic pain medicine – increase fluid intake and use mild laxative or stool softener if needed
- Numbness, tingling, and sensitivity to physical contact may persist for several weeks or longer

Post op Skin graft care:

- May change the white dressing on top as needed. Do not remove underlying yellow dressing. Dressing is tied down to the wound. Do not remove it.
- May get dressing wet in the shower 48 hours post operatively.
- May wash donor area with soap and water. If steri-strips (small white tapes) are on this area, it is OK to get them wet.

Follow-up:

- Follow up appointment 5-10 days post operatively
- Keep operative area elevated
- No heavy lifting, housework, or exercise until advised by Dr. Lohner to resume.
- Avoid sun exposure to this area for several months. Use sun block, brimmed hat, etc.
- Refrain from smoking for at least 10 days. Smoking slows healing and affects blood flow to wound.
- If wound is on the face, do not use make-up anywhere near the area until instructed to do so.

**DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL THE OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS
OR CONCERNS**

Pain medication: _____

Antibiotic: _____

Follow-up: _____ **please call office to
arrange appointment (610) 519-0600.**