

## Patient Information

# Simple excision of a skin lesion under local anaesthetic

If you have any questions please do not  
hesitate to ask a member of the nursing  
or medical staff, or call the  
Dermatology/Skin Cancer Specialist  
Nurse:

**Mihaela Savu**

Tel: 01935 384906

Mobile: 07990 776684

or email: [mihaela.savu@ydh.nhs.uk](mailto:mihaela.savu@ydh.nhs.uk)

**Plastics Secretary**

Tel: 01935 384887

**Dermatology Secretary**

Tel: 01935 384871

**Day Surgery Unit &  
Minor Procedure Clinic**

[www.yeovilhospital.nhs.uk](http://www.yeovilhospital.nhs.uk)

You have been asked to attend the Day Surgery Unit or Minor Procedure Clinic.

This leaflet helps to explain what is likely to happen. This is only a general guide and you will be given further information if necessary. Please ask the nurse or doctor if you are unsure of anything.

### **Your minor surgery**

Your operation will involve the use of local anaesthetic which causes numbness at the operation site. This should control any pain for about two hours. Normal feeling will then gradually return. You may need to take some mild painkillers, such as paracetamol (as directed on the manufacturer's packet) once the anaesthetic has worn off.

**Please remember to let your consultant know about any medication you are taking especially if you taking aspirin or warfarin.**

### **What complications may occur with this type of surgery?**

It is rare to have problems after this type of surgery. However, bleeding after surgery can occur but it is usually minimal and controlled by the dressing. Occasionally, temporary bruising and swelling may occur. Infection of the wound is rare and responds to antibiotics.

### **Removal of stitches**

If stitches have been inserted into your wound then these will need to be removed either at you own GP surgery or the Hospital Outpatient Department. If this is to be done at the GP Surgery you will be given a letter that summarises the details of your operation and suggests a date when you should make an appointment to see the Practise Nurse who will remove the stitches.

Alternatively, you may be given an appointment to attend the Outpatients Department to have the stitches removed and the wound checked by the doctor.

### **Care of your wound**

The doctor or nurse will tell you about any dressings used and when to remove them. If there is any leakage of blood from the wound then simply apply firm pressure for 15 minutes with a clean cloth on top of the existing dressing. In most cases the bleeding will cease. Always leave the original dressing in place but put an additional 'pressure dressing' on top of the original.

If there is excessive bleeding, discharge or pain from the wound then you need to make an appointment with your Practice Nurse at the surgery to have the dressing changed or assessed for infection, or you can contact the Dermatology and Skin Cancer Nurse Specialist - Mihaela Savu. Contact details can be found on back of this leaflet.

If it is out of clinic hours please contact the A&E Department.

**AS WITH ANY SURGERY THERE WILL BE A SCAR, this will usually fade with time.**

### **Test Results**

If there is any doubt as to the nature of the tissue removed then the sample will be sent to the laboratory for analysis to ensure there is no malignancy. It may take 2-4 weeks for the results of the biopsy to be ready. A follow-up appointment, to give you the results, may be arranged before you go home.

You and your GP will be informed of the result of the test.

### **General note**

This information sheet gives an overview of simple excision but cannot cover all eventualities. If you have questions after reading this information please let the nurse know in clinic before you go for your operation. The medical and nursing staff will do their best to provide any further information and answer any questions that you may have.