

## Looking After Your Skin Surgery Wound

### BIOPSY

#### Caring for your dressing:

- ❖ Leave the dressing on for 24 hours following the procedure.
- ❖ Keep the dressing dry unless we have indicated otherwise (we may be able to apply a film dressing which is water resistant if appropriate).
- ❖ If the dressing gets wet and/or leaks please call the surgery on 347-8848 to arrange to see a nurse for a dressing change.

#### Removing dressing:

- ❖ After 24 hours you can remove your dressing, the best time to do so is in the shower after you have finished using cleansing products, remove dressing and let the clean water wash over procedure site to clean.
- ❖ Be careful when drying the surgery site, ensure to pat the area dry and do not rub.
- ❖ The site generally does not need to be covered after this however you may choose to do so with a simple plaster if clothing is going to rub on the site or the site will be exposed to a dirty environment.
- ❖ Keep the area clean by washing as normal after the initial dressing removal.

#### Pain relief:

- ❖ When the local anaesthetic wears off, you may need some pain relief. Usually paracetamol is adequate however stronger tablets may be prescribed if appropriate.
- ❖ Do not take aspirin or ibuprofen for pain as this can cause bleeding, however if you normally take aspirin for a medical condition, do not stop unless indicated to stop by your doctor.

**Return to the surgery \_\_\_ days after your procedure for removal of your stitches**