



Post operative instructions: **BIOPSY**

Today you had a biopsy performed on your skin lesion.

While most of these will heal quickly and without concern a few tips to help the process:

1. General care
 - The dressing can get wet in the shower but no baths or swimming for 7 days
 - Remove the dressing after 2 days and clean the wound with salty water
 - Apply Vaseline twice a day until healed / sutures removed
 - Don't apply Vaseline on the day of your suture removal
 - No shaving across the area as this will cut the suture ends
2. Pain
 - Most biopsies, if well covered, will require no pain relief at all.
 - If required Panadol 2 tabs four times a day as needed.
 - Nurofen and Voltaren can cause bleeding so in the first instance try Panadol.
3. What to watch out for
 - Infection - <1% of biopsies get infected but will present as:
 - i. Pain getting worse after 48 hours
 - ii. Smell through the dressing
 - iii. Redness and warmth at the site
 - iv. Fevers or feeling unwell
 - v. Please contact the clinic and we will arrange urgent review
 - Bleeding
 - i. Bleeding contained within the dressing in the first 24 hours is common
 - ii. If bleeding is occurring through the dressing apply firm pressure for 20 mins
 - iii. If bleeding continues after this period please contact the clinic in hours or attend Emergency after hours.
 - iv. If no active bleeding you can restart your blood thinner the next day