

Remember: Ask your nurse if you are unsure about anything about your child's care.

Additional instructions



Developed by Dermatology Department

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Children's Health Ireland
at Crumlin

Information for parents / guardians

Post Skin Biopsy



Dermatology Department

01 428 2646

01 428 2641

01 428 2532

Your child has had a skin biopsy under local anaesthetic in the Dermatology Department. This anesthetic will last a few hours

Your child may be sore after the procedure and can be given pain medication according to their age. It is advised that they rest for the remainder of the day.

A dressing has been applied to protect the biopsy site. It should be left untouched for the next 48 hours.

If this dressing falls off, replace with a fresh dressing.

After 48 hours, the dressing can be removed. Observe for any signs of infection such as:

- localised pain / tenderness
- swelling
- redness (especially a red tracking line or streak extending from the wound)
- oozing and crusting
- heat around the wound

If you have any concerns contact the Dermatology team or your GP outside of office hours



- If the wound is clean and dry you can now either leave it uncovered or a small dressing can be reapplied.
- Your child can bath / shower 48 hours after the procedure.
- Continue to observe the wound daily for these signs of infection until sutures are removed or until wound is healed.
- To protect the wound and allow healing your child should avoid boisterous play and contact sports until sutures are removed.

- If sutures are to be removed, this can be done by your GP or as instructed by the dermatology team.

Remove sutures on

- If absorbable sutures are used the team will instruct you regarding these.

- Once sutures are removed, you can massage the wound with a non-perfumed moisturiser once / twice a day.
- As always, be sun smart and use sun protection. A sun block with a SPF of >30 should be used on the area as well as on all other sun-exposed areas of the body.



- A scar will be present that may increase in redness initially but over time will fade and become paler.

Your biopsy results will generally be ready within a couple of weeks and will be given to you at your follow up appointment or sent to you by letter. Your GP will also be informed of the results by letter.

