Incision Care: No Dressing

Your incision is to be left uncovered and open to the air.

Your Care

- Check your incision for signs of infection:
  - Warmth
  - Swelling
  - Redness
  - Change or increase in drainage
- If you are allowed to shower, let the water run over your incision. Do not let the spray directly hit the incision. Pat your incision dry.
- Do not soak your incision in water. This includes bathtubs, swimming pools and hot tubs.
- If you have staples or sutures on your incision, they will be removed at your doctor’s office.
- If you have tapes called steri strips on your incision, they will fall off on their own. Do not pull them off. You may trim the edges as they curl.

Call your doctor right away if you have:

- Any signs of infection such as warmth, swelling, redness or change or increase in drainage
- Opening up of the incision
- Increased bleeding or pain
- Loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting

Talk to your doctor or nurse if you have any questions or concerns.

2005 – 11/2011 Health Information Translations

Unless otherwise stated, user may print or download information from www.healthinfotranslations.org for personal, non-commercial use only. The medical information found on this website should not be used in place of a consultation with your doctor or other health care provider. You should always seek the advice of your doctor or other qualified health care provider before you start or stop any treatment or with any questions you may have about a medical condition. The Ohio State University Medical Center, Mount Carmel Health System, OhioHealth and Nationwide Children’s Hospital are not responsible for injuries or damages you may incur as a result of your stopping medical treatment or your failure to obtain medical treatment.