

## **POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF CYSTS WITHOUT SUTURES**

There may be a mild stinging sensation when the anesthetic wears off after 15-45 minutes.

There should be no significant pain, but Tylenol may be taken if needed. Avoid aspirin, ibuprofen and similar medications for 24 hours, as they may promote bleeding.

The gauze dressing, if applied, is a pressure dressing to help prevent bleeding. **Call the office if blood becomes evident through the dressing.** Keep the dressing dry and remove it the following morning.

Gently cleanse the wound with soap and water, **apply a thin coating of petroleum jelly (Vaseline brand or generic)** and cover with a band-aid. We suggest that you purchase a new, small tube or jar. Repeat daily until the wound is healed; approximately 3 -7 days. If you prefer not to wear a band-aid, apply the petroleum jelly 2-3 times a day. A day or two after the procedure, the surrounding skin may appear somewhat black and blue, or yellow. A small red rim may develop around the wound site as it heals. These are normal occurrences.

**Call the office if significant pain, tenderness to touch, redness or swelling develops.** This may represent persistence of part of the cyst (a common occurrence) that needs further treatment, or an infection (uncommon) that needs treatment with an oral antibiotic.

Since some cysts require more than one treatment, be sure to keep your follow up appointment if the doctor has scheduled one.

Call the office and schedule a return appointment if a significant bump remains after healing has occurred as this might represent a persistent cyst, a new cyst or scar tissue, and should be evaluated.