

Patient Education: Punch Biopsy

- A procedure called a punch biopsy was done to remove a lesion from your skin.
- You received an anesthetic agent to numb a specific area of your body so the biopsy could be done without causing pain.
- The numbing effects will wear off in approximately 4 to 6 hours.
- The area around the wound may appear and feel swollen. This can be due to both the injury and the anesthetic agent that was used. This will slowly resolve as the anesthetic agent is absorbed by the body.
- The skin around wound may appear pale or white in color. This will resolve as the anesthetic agent is absorbed.
- Take care not to injure the area where the anesthetic agent was used as you may not feel anything at the site until the numbing effects of the anesthetic agent wear off.
- As the anesthetic agent wears off, you may experience pain at the site and may take an oral analgesic (such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen) as directed by your health care provider.

You may take:

- Acetaminophen ____ mg to ____ mg every ____ to ____ hours for ____ day(s) as needed
 - Ibuprofen ____ mg to ____ mg every ____ to ____ hours for ____ day(s) as needed
- Keep the dressing in place for 24-48 hours to keep the wound clean and dry.
 - Do not soak the wound, showering is acceptable.
 - Monitor for signs and symptoms of infection: wound tenderness, redness greater than 1 cm from wound edge, pus, opening of the wound and return to the clinic for seek care from another health care provider.
 - Return to the clinic in ____ days for removal of your sutures.
 - Your health care provider will review the pathology results of the biopsy with you at the follow-up appointment.

