

Curettage and Cautery Leaflet



Dermatology Service

Looking after your wound following skin surgery

Telephone: 0117 9449 782/ 0117 9449 783

Email: sirona.dermatology@nhs.net



Curettage and Cautery

You have been treated, using a scraping technique called curettage. After curettage, the raw area has been treated with Cautery (heat), electrodesiccation (electric current only) or a chemical to stop the bleeding. There are no stitches. The wound will be a black area like a deep graze, which may take two to three weeks to heal. Once healed the scar may be red and slightly raised. After several months it should settle to a more flesh coloured, flat scar.

Wound care following surgery

- Once the local anaesthetic has worn off, you may need to take a simple pain-relieving drug.
- Leave the dressing that has been applied in place for 24hrs, unless you have been advised otherwise.
- Remove the dressing and wash the area under the shower, soak it or pour warm water over it. This will help to remove any loose debris under which infection can occur.
- Pat the area dry with a separate clean towel or tissue and cover with a thin smear of vaseline or an ointment that the doctor has given you. A dry dressing may be applied, but it is not essential. Use a breathable, not waterproof, type of dressing.
- Repeat every 24hrs until the wound has healed.
- Do not apply makeup until the wound has healed.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact the **Dermatology Team**

Let us know what you think and get involved

Telephone: 0300 124 5300*

Email: sirona.hello@nhs.net

Website: [Link to Sirona website](#)

*Calls from landlines are charged up to 10p per minute; calls from mobiles vary, please check with your network provider. This is not a premium-rate number.

This document can be provided in other formats and languages, please contact us for more information.

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