



# SHADES VALLEY

## DERMATOLOGY

### **Electrodesiccation and Curettage Instructions**

You have had an Electrodesiccation and Curettage (scraping and burning), a procedure in which an instrument called a curette is used to scrape away the abnormal cancer cells and electric cautery is used to further treat the lesion(s) as well as stop any bleeding.

#### **Caring for your wound at home:**

- Clean the wound daily with antibacterial soap and water.
- After cleaning, apply a thin coat of Vaseline to the treated area (DO NOT USE NEOSPORIN, which may cause an allergic reaction).
- Apply a bandage every day until the wound is healed.
- During normal healing of this type of wound you can expect to see a yellowish center with a red surrounding edge. This area will slowly decrease in size as your wound heals until it is completely healed over. The resulting scar will be round and either pink/red, white or purple (on the lower extremities).
- Bleeding is rare, but if it should occur, apply direct, firm pressure to the bleeding site for a full 15 minutes without easing up. If the bleeding continues, despite your efforts, please call the office at 205-578-1799 to speak with a nurse/provider. It may be necessary to go to the emergency room.
- It can take up to 4-6 weeks for your wound to heal completely (2-3 months to completely heal on the lower extremities). Initially some oozing from the site is normal. The wound is healed when there is no longer a crust on the site or drainage on the bandage.
- If you have any questions or concerns regarding your wound or associated healing, please call our office at 205-578-1799.