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.