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## Postoperative Wound Care Instructions

1. Take medications as directed. **DO NOT** mix alcohol and medications. **DO NOT** take aspirin or any medications containing aspirin for two weeks. If you are taking an antibiotic, be sure to finish it.
2. Wounds on the head and neck area may get wet the same day as the surgery. This means you can wash your face and shampoo your hair if desired. This will not damage the wound. Peroxide may also be used and is helpful to clean away hard crusts that may form from normal wound drainage. Keep non-facial areas dry for two days if possible. This allows the incisions to seal and stop draining. You may remove dressings after two days and reapply for comfort or protection as desired.
3. Apply Polysporin Ointment to facial wounds until all crusts are gone.
4. Red tinged or slightly bloody drainage from wounds is normal for up to 48 hours after the surgery. Applying gentle pressure for 10 minutes will usually stop the flow.
5. Intraoral lacerations are cared for by swishing a mixture of ½ Peroxide and ½ mouthwash after meals and before bed.
6. Keep the wound elevated as much as possible until all the swelling is gone.
7. When the stitches are in place, stay out of the sun as much as possible to prevent a brown scar by tanning the new incision. After the stitches have been removed the incision can be coated with sunscreen and judicious sun exposure can be safe.
8. Please call the office if you have any questions or concerns.
9. Move the legs and feet often to prevent dangerous blood clots in the legs. Taking big breaths and coughing will restore normal lung function after anesthesia.
10. Contact the office today to schedule your first post-op visit.
11. If your procedure is covered by insurance, we will file your insurance for you as a courtesy. We do expect you to be prepared to pay your portion of the fees at the first postoperative visit.