

## **Care of Skin Following** **Cautery, Milia, Skin Tag Removal, CO2 Laser**

The procedure you had removed a small amount of skin tissue. Following the instructions below will help the skin heal more quickly, and make the final outcome look its best.

The immediate moderate discomfort will disappear in about 15 to 20 minutes, although you may experience minor discomfort for one to two days. You will see an area of redness where the skin was treated, and it may feel a little tender to your touch.

A light crusted spot usually forms within a few days, often times within a few hours. Do not disturb or burst this crust. Over time, the crusted area will fall off; it falls off when the new skin under the crust has grown over the wound, new skin has formed, and the treated spot is all sealed up and healed up. This entire process usually takes up to 2 weeks.

### **Wound Care for Treated Area(s):**

1. Keep the area clean by washing with a mild soap and water at least 2 times a day.
2. Pat the area dry, taking care not to disturb the crust. .
3. In general, apply a thin layer of *Resurfix Healing Ointment (sold in our office)* or *vaseline* to the area, again, being careful not to disturb the crust.
4. Dressings are not needed; the vaseline acts as a "sealant"- keeping the crust moist so that the new skin will heal more quickly.
5. After the crust falls off, the skin underneath may remain red for several more weeks; that is normal. At this time, stop the vaseline product, and use a bland thick moisturizer and sunscreen as needed to the area. The redness will fade over several weeks. An example of a good moisturizer to use is: the *Post Peel Recovery Cream (sold in our office)* or *Cetaphil Cream (sold in the pharmacy)*.

Should the area become extra tender, continue to weep, or the drainage becomes thickened and/or yellowish, please notify the office and arrange to come in for an evaluation.

Some types of spots require more than one treatment to achieve your final outcome. If you were scheduled for only one treatment and the spot did not completely resolve, then you should call our office at (860) 245-0000 to be evaluated.