

J. Jason Wendel, M.D.

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Postoperative Instructions

EARLOBE REPAIR | EARLOBE REDUCTION SURGERY

You have had a procedure that required sutures (stitches) to close the wound. These will remain in the skin for about 5-10 days, depending on Dr. Wendel's discretion.

Instructions

Follow directions for all your medications carefully.

Do not drink alcohol while taking narcotic pain medications.

No swimming for two weeks after suture removal.

Incision Care

Keep the wound and sutures clean, dry and inspect daily for signs of infection.

After 24 hours, you may wash the area gently with mild soap and water, unless instructed otherwise. Avoid soaking the area while sutures are in place.

Baths are okay.

You may be directed to apply a medication and dressing to the wound. Be sure to ask any questions about your care so that you can perform these dressings at home.

Appearance

Dr. Wendel will decide on the appropriate type of suture(s) necessary for your procedure. Some sutures need to be removed; some sutures dissolve.

Generally, one of three kinds of sutures is used:

Interrupted - small knots are used to close the wound

Over and Over - continuous, loop-like stitches

Subcutaneous (Buried) – hidden sutures under the skin that dissolve

When To Call

If you have increased swelling or bruising.

If swelling and redness persist after a few days.

If you have increased redness along the incision.

If you have severe or increased pain not relieved by medication.

If you have any side effects to medications; such as, rash, nausea, headache, vomiting.

If you have an oral temperature over 100.4 degrees.

If you have any yellowish or greenish drainage from the incisions or notice a foul odor.

If you have bleeding from the incisions that is difficult to control with light pressure.

If you have loss of feeling or motion.

For Medical Questions, Please Call:

(615) 921-2100 Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM and Fridays 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. After hours and on weekends, the answering service will contact Dr. Wendel or the plastic surgeon on call.