

What are the signs of infection?

If the wound becomes painful, red or swollen, or if pus comes out, contact your GP or the Emergency Department.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are concerned about your wound in the 24 hours after attendance please contact the Emergency Department you attended or NHS 24. After this time please contact your GP or NHS 24.

Emergency Department	
Hairmyres	01355 584716
Monklands	01698 752005
Wishaw	01698 366630
NHS 24	111

FURTHER INFORMATION

NHS inform - The national health information service for Scotland.
www.nhsinform.scot
Tel No: 0800 22 44 88

If you need this information in another language or format, please e-mail: Translation.
Services@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk



www.careopinion.org.uk



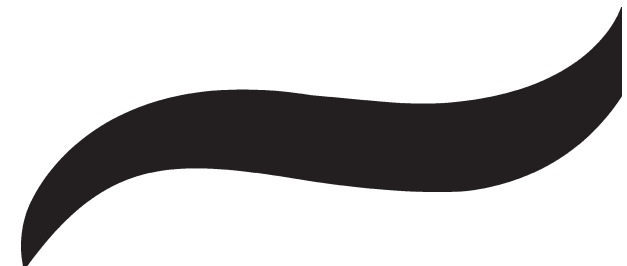
Pub. date:	April 2022
Review date:	April 2024
Issue No:	08
Clinical Lead:	

PIL.WOUNDC.59967.W
22_03916



Wound care

Information for patients
Accident and Emergency Department



WHEN SKIN GLUE HAS BEEN USED

Why has my wound been glued?

Your wound has been assessed and was suitable to be closed with a special medical glue. The glue will not need to be removed.

How should I care for the wound?

- ❖ The wound should be kept clean and dry for 5 days. If it does get wet, pat it dry with a tissue or piece of kitchen towel.
- ❖ After this time it is fine to wash the area, including the hair if the wound is on the head.
- ❖ It is important that you do not pick at the glue.
- ❖ The glue will form part of the scab which will come away when the wound has healed.

What happens if the wound reopens?

This should only happen if the glue is picked or accidentally knocked out. Don't worry. Come back to the Emergency Department and we will reassess the wound.

What are the signs of infection?

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WHEN STITCHES HAVE BEEN USED

Why has my wound been stitched?

Your wound was assessed as being too deep to be closed with glue or steristrips. The cut will be held together by the stitches until it has healed. The stitches will then need to be removed.

How should I care for the wound?

- ❖ If a dressing has been applied to the wound, it is important to keep it clean and dry. A wet dressing may delay the healing process.
- ❖ A dressing may not always be required, for example on the face or scalp. It is still important that the wound be kept clean and not picked.
- ❖ If the stitches are on the face a regular dab of Vaseline can help healing.

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How long do the stitches need to stay in for?

The stitches should be removed in days. This can be done by your GP, practice nurse in your local Health Centre – you may need an appointment. Removing the stitches should be quick and painless.

WHEN STERISTRIPS HAVE BEEN USED

What are steristrips?

They are small sticky strips which act by holding the edges of the wound together while it heals.

Why hasn't the wound been stitched?

The wound has been assessed and is suitable to be closed with steristrips. It will look better when it has healed because there will be no stitch holes.

How should I care for the wound?

- ❖ The wound should be kept clean and dry. If it does get wet, pat it dry with a tissue or piece of kitchen towel.
- ❖ If your child has a dressing over the steristrips which gets wet, it is important to remove this and pat the wound dry leaving the steristrips in place.

How long to steristrips have to stay in place?

The steristrips should be removed in days.

How do I remove the steristrips?

- ❖ The steristrips can be removed by gently peeling them off at each end, going towards the middle of the wound.
- ❖ It is important to remove any reinforcing steristrips first.
- ❖ The steristrips can be loosened by moistening them with water.