

Post-Operative Instructions

Full Thickness Skin Grafts

These require careful protection for the first week and dressings should be kept clean and dry initially.

Should there be any undue bleeding in the early post-operative hours, firm pressure over the dressing for 5-10 minutes will usually stop it. Notify the Practice if bleeding persists.

Donor site stitches can be washed to keep the wound clean.

After the initial dressing removal in the Rooms, you will be instructed on self dressings. This often involves cleansing the grafted area and ointment application, with or without an external dressing.

It will take a few weeks for the graft to stabilise and colour change may take a few months to settle.

Split Thickness Skin Grafts

Keep graft dressing clean and dry initially.

Donor sites are usually covered with a plastic film dressing which must be left in place, but can get wet. Some bleeding and fluid under the plastic film is normal, but if excessive should be reported as the dressing may need to be changed, or fluid aspirated. If the accumulated fluid leaks from under the film, an absorbent dressing pad is best applied, and arrangements made for redressing in the next day or so.

Grafts to Lower Legs (usually Split Thickness Skin Grafts)

Keep graft dressing dry and intact.

Donor site may get wet if separate to the graft dressing.

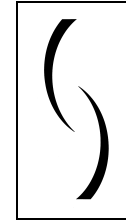
An elastic bandage or stocking **must** be worn when your leg is hanging down (or when sitting, standing or walking). This may need to be worn for 3-4 weeks.

Restrict activity for the first week and keep your leg elevated as much as possible.

If you have any concerns please contact your Surgeon on 8223 7870

after-hours on 1300 308 153

(Private Plastic Surgery Service)



SACH DAY SURGERY

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Instructions

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Split Thickness Skin Grafts
Grafts to Lower Legs

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