

## **WOUND CARE: ELECTRODESSICATION AND CURETTAGE (ED&C)**

### **WHAT IS AN ED&C?**

Curettage is a procedure in which a cancerous lesion is removed by scraping the skin with a sharp instrument. Electrodesiccation is another name for cauterization. The wound is coated with a chemical called aluminum chloride and then lightly burned with the electrocautery.

### **HOW DO I CARE FOR THE WOUND?**

Allow any pressure dressing applied by the physician to remain in place for at least 24 hours. If there is any bleeding, apply firm, **CONTINUOUS** pressure to the area for 20 minutes. If this does not stop the bleeding, please call the office or report to an emergency room.

Gently clean the wound daily with a mild soap and water then pat dry. Apply plain clean Vaseline or Polysporin ointment to the wound then cover with a Band-aid once a day, until the wound heals. Keeping the wound moist will prevent the formation of a scab and will reduce the risk of scarring.

*\* \*DO NOT USE NEOSPORIN OR TRIPLE ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT\* \**

Remember that full maturation of the wound usually takes 3-6 months, and that the initial pink color of the wound will ultimately turn white.

### **IS THERE ANYTHING I SHOULD LOOK FOR?**

You should notify us immediately if you notice any strong odor, extreme tenderness not relieved by Tylenol, pus coming from the wound, red streaks, or if the area is warm to the touch. If you have any questions/concerns, please call the office at (352) 371-7546.