

**Claremore Surgeons, Inc.**  
**Lawrence C. Brotherton III, M.D.                      L. Kyle Hrdlicka, D.O.**

**Post-Procedure Instructions After Abscess Drainage (without Wound Vac)**

**Supplies**

- Non-sterile exam gloves, ¼ - 1 inch packing strip (depending on size of wound), saline for irrigation, cotton tip applicators or tweezers, 4x4 gauze pads, paper tape, zip-lock bags.

**Care of the Incision**

- You need to change your dressing \_\_\_\_\_ times per day.
- Use examination gloves (non-sterile) when changing the dressing.
- You may shower. In fact, this is the best time to change your dressing.
- If the area is still very sore, take your pain medication about 15-20 minutes before the dressing change to help with the soreness. The soreness will improve as time passes!
- Remove the dressing and the packing strip, and it is ok for the wound to be washed with soap and water.
- Take a section of the packing gauze, moisten it with the saline before packing it into the wound. You may use tweezers or a q-tip to do this, but do not pack the wound too tightly.
- Place a 4x4 gauze pad and tape it over the wound to protect your clothing. Kotex pads work well also.
- Please dispose of any soiled dressings in a zip-lock bag before disposing of them.
- Be sure to wash your hands and be careful not to contaminate your surroundings while caring for the wound to reduce the risk of spreading the infection to other people!

**Pain Medications**

- Your local anesthetic will wear off in about 1 to 3 hours at which time the area may become sore.
- You may use over the counter pain relievers such as Ibuprofen or Motrin as well unless you have a strong history of stomach ulcers. Be sure to take these with food.
- If you have been given a prescription for pain medication like Lortab, Tylenol #3, or Percocet, do not drive until you are off the medication for 24 hours.
- These pain medications cause constipation so you also may need to take a stool softener or Milk of Magnesia. High fiber diets and drinking plenty of fluids also help to prevent constipation.

**Follow-Up Appointment**

- Call the office at 341-5311 to schedule an appointment if not already scheduled.

**Call our office at 341-5311 during business hours or the hospital after hours at 341-2556 if:**

- Increasing pain.
- Persistent fevers of greater than 101°F.
- Worsening redness around the wound or significant bleeding from the wound.
- Any other questions or concerns.
- In case of emergency, go to the Claremore Regional Hospital Emergency Room.

***I HAVE RECEIVED AND UNDERSTAND THESE INSTRUCTIONS***

\_\_\_\_\_ **Patient/Guardian**                      **Date** \_\_\_\_\_