



We can provide interpreters for a variety of languages, information in larger print or other formats (e.g. audio) - please call us on 01932 723553.

To use the Text Relay service, prefix all numbers with 18001.

اگر نیاز به ترجمہ دارید، لطفاً با شماره 01932 723553 تماس بگیرید۔

ने दुवातुं उरममे दी लेर वै उं विरथा वरवे इस नंघर उे देन वरवे: 01932 723553

اگر آپ اس کا اردو زبان میں ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم اس فون نمبر 01932 723553 پر رابطہ کریں

Se precisa de uma tradução por favor contacte: 01932 723553

আপনার অনুবাদের দরকার হলে এখানে যোগাযোগ করুন : 01932 723553

यदि आपको अनुवाद की जरूरत है तो कृपया इस नंबर पर फोन करें: 01932 723553

Jeżeli chcemy, aby te informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić 01932 723553

Ashford Hospital
London Road
Ashford, Middlesex
TW15 3AA
Tel: **01784 884488**

St. Peter's Hospital
Guildford Road
Chertsey, Surrey
KT16 0PZ.
Tel: **01932 872000**

Website: www.ashfordstpeters.nhs.uk

Wound Care

Paediatrics Department



Wound Care

Your wound may have been treated with steristrips, medical glue or stitches, or just a dressing.

Once the wound has been closed and / or dressed it is important to keep it clean and dry in order to prevent infection. This applies to all wounds.

It is advisable not to cover the wound with any form of waterproof covering (plasters, rubber gloves, plastic bags etc.) as these tend to make it soggy, more prone to infection and slower to heal.

If the wound re-opens, please bring your child back to A&E.

Steristrips

Steristrips are used to close superficial wounds and are removed after 5 days. The steristrip should be removed by lifting one end as far as the wound edge and then lifting the other end to meet it. If you are not confident to do this, the practise nurse at your GP surgery should be able to help. You will need to make an appointment for this.

Stitches

Stitches are used to close deeper wounds and should stay in place for between 3 and 10 days depending on the area of the body. You will be given a leaflet saying how many stitches are present and when they should be removed. You will be advised to make an appointment with the practise nurse at the GP surgery for this.

Glue

Medical glue is used to close superficial wounds, and does not need to be removed. After 5 to 7 days the glue should lift off by

itself as the wound forms a scab. Please try to discourage your child from picking the glue off.

Wound dressings

Dressings are used for a variety of reasons, usually to prevent infection, or to allow a wound to heal when it cannot be closed. If the skin is burnt, a special dressing will be applied to prevent infection, and allow the wound to heal. In other situations, e.g. skin loss, animal bites or infected wounds, a medicated dressing may be applied. These will be reviewed on an individual basis and you will be advised where and when to attend for review.

Signs and symptoms of infection

Most wounds heal without any problems. Occasionally a wound may become infected. Your GP should be able to help you in the first instance, but may refer you to hospital if there are further complications. Signs to look out for are:

- Increased pain, redness, warmth or swelling around the wound
- Discharge or offensive smell from the wound
- Fever, feeling unwell.

Further Information

We endeavour to provide an excellent service at all times, but should you have any concerns please, in the first instance, raise these with the Matron, Senior Nurse or Manager on duty. If they cannot resolve your concern, please contact our Patient Experience Team on 01932 723553 or email patient.advice@asph.nhs.uk. If you remain concerned, the team can also advise upon how to make a formal complaint.

Author: Dr Erin Dawson

Department: Paediatrics

Version: 2

Published: Jun 2017

Review: Jun 2020