

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, CALL (855) 863-9595 TO SPEAK WITH OUR ON-CALL CLINICIAN.

SKIN GRAFT

When you are discharged from the hospital, there will be a dressing in place over the skin graft. This dressing contains a slow-release antibiotic and must stay in place until your return appointment. If the dressing becomes loose or moves, you can secure the dressing with clean, dry gauze. If the skin graft is on your arms, hands, legs or feet, keep it elevated as much as possible to treat or prevent swelling. You may see some fluid, it is often yellow or brown in color. This is normal. If the area where the skin graft is begins to itch, do not scratch, as this may dislodge the skin graft. You may use an over-the-counter oral medication for itching.

DONOR SITE

This is the area where your skin graft was harvested. It often is more painful than the area where the skin was placed. This is normal. The pain should decrease each day.



THERE ARE TWO WAYS WE TREAT DONOR SITES

1. You will have a dressing that should be left in place. There will be a slow-release antibiotic dressing over the harvest site. Often, there is significant drainage from this site. This is normal and will decrease over several days. If you need to, you may reinforce the dressing with dry gauze.
2. You may have a yellow gauze (Xeroform) on your donor site that should be exposed to air and allowed to dry like a scab. Once you are home, it is important to keep the yellow gauze uncovered and allow it to dry. If you cover it, moisture may develop, slowing the healing time and increasing the chance of developing an infection. You may have been given instructions to apply a drying liquid (Betadine) several times a day. Continue to do this until the area is dry and no more moist areas are present. The yellow gauze will separate from the donor site as your new skin grows back underneath. This usually takes about two weeks.



XEROFORM

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION

- + Temperature of 101.5° or greater.
- + Fluid that is green, tan, creamy, thick or smells.
- + Redness spreading out from around the edges of the burn.
- + Worsening/increasing pain.

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