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## **Care of Your Surgical Site**

- ❖ Keep your bandage on for 24 hours.
  - After removing bandage, wash gently with warm water.
  - Do not use soap, alcohol, or hydrogen peroxide as they can be irritating to healing wounds.
  - Apply a thin layer of Vaseline petroleum jelly to the site and cover with a bandage or non-stick gauze such as Telfa.
  - Change bandage daily.
  - Avoid letting the wound become dry or scabbed as this results in slower healing.
  - Leave the bandage on during bathing/showering.
- If redness, pus, or fever occurs, you may have developed an infection. Call your doctor immediately.
- ❖ If any bleeding occurs, remove your bandage. Using sterile cotton or gauze, press firmly directly over the site for 10 − 15 minutes. Do not remove pressure before 10 minutes. If bleeding does not stop, call your doctor.
- Tylenol is best for pain. Avoid aspirin or ibuprofen as they make you more prone to bleeding.
- If you notice any other problems that you think may be associated with your surgery, contact your doctor.