

**You (your child) have just received care for a cut (laceration)**

**To close the cut, we used one or more of the following:**

- Glue that will come off on its own after 1 week
- Adhesive strips that will fall off on their own after 1 week
- Sutures (i.e. stiches) that dissolve on their own after 1 week
- Sutures (i.e. stiches) that need to be removed - the doctor will inform you when to return to take out the sutures

**How do I care for the wound?**

- Keep the wound dry for 24 hours
- After 24 hours, can take a bath or shower (wound may get wet)
- Antibiotic ointment is not needed unless specifically recommended by the doctor
- To help the scar heal nicely, *after* the glue and/or stiches are off:
  - Gently massage the wound once a day for 6 months
  - Sunscreen should be applied to avoid sun damage to the scar

**What to expect with your wound**

- It is normal for the wound edges to be pink
- It is normal for wounds to be *slightly* itchy or “scratchy” while healing
- It is normal for wounds to cause *mild* pain or discomfort for the first day

**How can I alleviate pain?**

- Use Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen. Follow the instructions on the bottle
- If your child has allergies to the above medications, speak to your doctor

**What should I look for?**

- There is redness spreading from the cut to nearby skin
- Wound is hurting more than before
- There is pus (yellow/green liquid, sometimes with a bad smell) coming from the wound
- Any of the above with fever (> 38 degrees Celcius)
- Wound re-opens (i.e. comes apart) as this can lead to poor healing

**Who do I call if I have any questions or concerns?**

UP centre for pediatric emergencies @ 450-693-0323