

- ⇒ If your condition does not improve or gets worse, please contact the surgery during opening hours on 01948 860205.
- ⇒ If you require information or advice which is non-urgent, you can telephone NHS Direct, a 24 hour advice line, on 0845 46 47.
- ⇒ **OUT-OF-HOURS COVER:** Medical advice is always available for emergencies at night, weekends and all bank holidays. If you require advice urgently, please call 01948 860205. The recorded message will give you the number to call for the GP Out of Hours Service.
- ⇒ **EMERGENCIES:** In the event of a serious problem, such as chest pain or collapse, call 999 immediately.

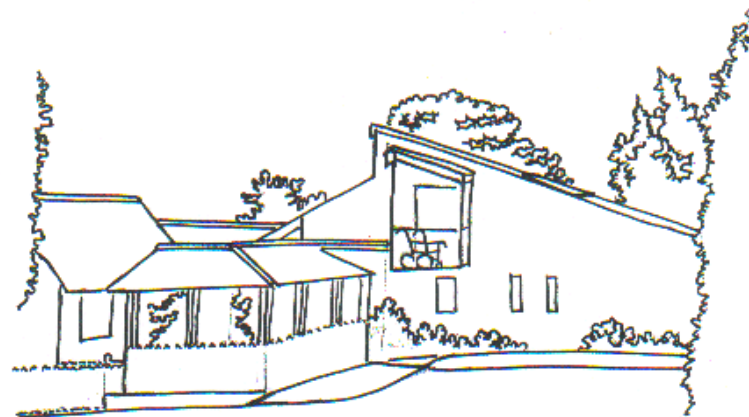


Laurel Bank Surgery
Malpas
Cheshire SY14 8PS



Phone: 01948 860205
Fax: 01948 860142

**AFTER-CARE ADVICE ON
WOUND CARE**
LAUREL BANK SURGERY
MALPAS, CHESHIRE SY14 8PS



Tel: 01948 860205

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Wound Care

Your wound may have been treated by suturing (stitches), steristrips (butterfly plasters), medical glue or dressing alone. To care for your wound, it would help to follow these guidelines:

- ◆ Keep the wound dry - wash around where possible
- ◆ Do not cover with plastic fingerstalls, plastic bags etc. unless advised as this will make the wound moist and prone to infection
- ◆ If your scalp has been sutured, it is best to wash your hair on returning home to remove dried blood, then leave it for 48 hours
- ◆ Do not apply any lotions or creams unless instructed to do so
- ◆ Watch for signs of infection: increasing pain with associated redness, swelling and a red line running up the limb. If these symptoms occur, please visit your GP or Accident Department sooner than requested
- ◆ If blood or fluid oozes through the dressing, return to the Accident Department or your own GP for re-dressing.



- ◆ Keep the wound clean and dry for 5 days.
- ◆ A scab will form on the wound and it will come away once you start washing the area. If you are worried about the wound, inform your GP or return to the Accident Department.

Stitches

Stitches should be removed after about 5 to 10 days. The nurse or doctor will advise you about this. The stitches will usually be removed by your GP's practice nurse. Please contact them for an appointment.

Steristrips

Steristrips can be removed after 5 to 7 days except on shins where you may be advised to keep them for 14 to 21 days. To ease removal, the wound can be moistened and the strips carefully removed.

Glue

Glue does not need to be removed: it drops off when the wound is healed. There is a small chance that the wound will reopen. Don't worry, come back and we will re-assess the injury.

