

# WEST HILLS DERMATOLOGY GROUP

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## WHAT IS A BIOPSY?

A “Biopsy” is the removal of a small sample of growth on the skin by your dermatologist. The sample is then sent to a pathologist, a Doctor who examines this sample under a microscope and renders a diagnosis regarding the type of growth or disease present.

Your doctor then reviews the pathologist’s findings and coordinates that with observation of your condition. Knowing the type of growth or disease helps your Doctor determine the best possible way to treat you.

### Post Care Instructions:

- Wash your hands with soap and water
- Cleanse the biopsy site with soap and water
- Thoroughly dry the area and apply a small amount of ointment (Aquaphor or Biafine)
- Place a small dressing or band-aid over the wound until the wound is healed.

If you are on **ANY** blood thinner and if the biopsy site was on the hands or lower legs be sure to keep the area elevated while resting for the first night.

Studies have shown that wounds heal better when the area is covered with ointment and dressing.

Please contact our office if you notice ANY signs of infection such as:

- Inflammation
- Redness or puffiness
- Excessive bleeding
- Fever and/or chills

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us at 818 592 6005. We also have an on-call physician after hours to the same number listed, so feel free to still call if the office is closed.