

# **HILTON HEAD DERMATOLOGY & SKIN CANCER CENTER, P.A.**

Certified, American Board of Dermatology • Certified, American Board of Mohs Micrographic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology

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Cosmetic Laser Surgery  
Diseases of the Skin, Hair, & Nails  
Dermatologic Reconstructive Surgery  
Mohs Micrographic Skin Cancer Surgery

## ***What Is A Biopsy?***

A “Biopsy” is the removal of a small sample of a growth on the skin by your dermatologist. The sample is then sent to the 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 his/her observation of your condition. Knowing the type of growth or disease helps your doctor to determine the best possible way to treat you. It generally takes up to **14 working days** for the pathology results on paraffin sections to be returned. Should there be a problem that requires a change in treatment or additional surgery for cancerous roots, we will call you. As a note all our surgical procedure are done at our Hilton Head office. If you are curious as to your results otherwise, please contact us at your convenience.

These are the charges when a biopsy is performed:

1. The dermatologist for removal of the tissue to be examined, and
2. The pathologist for microscopic evaluation of the tissue (billed on a different date), and
3. The laboratory for preparation of the microscopic slide.

The biology of your lesion, whether malignant or not, will not significantly change in 14 days.

## ***Care Of Biopsy Site***

1. Keep wound dry for the first 24 hours.
2. Wash your hands with soap and water.
3. Remove the dressing.
4. Cleanse the biopsy site with hydrogen peroxide for the first two days.
5. Thoroughly dry the area and apply a small amount of antibiotic ointment (Polysporin, Bacitracin, triple antibiotic ointment or similar wound ointment).
6. Place a small dressing or band-aid over the wound changing twice daily until the wound is healed usually 1 week.
7. **Should bleeding occur, apply firm constant pressure for 20 minutes.**

Studies show that wounds heal better when covered with ointment and a dressing.

## ***Emergencies After 5pm Only***

Director of Nursing, Patty Gosdin, RN (843) 422-3394 (C)

***Make a phone call. Do not text or e-mail.***

**If unable to reach any of the staff members above go to the emergency room.**

**15 Hospital Center Blvd., Medical Quarters Suite 1 • Hilton Head, SC 29926 • (843) 689-9200**

Fellow, American Academy of Dermatology • Fellow, American Society for Dermatologic Surgery

Fellow, American College of Mohs Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology • Fellow, American Society of Laser Medicine and Surgery