

Please use this space for any notes you wish to make.

Further sources of information

NHS Choices: www.nhs.uk/conditions

Our website: www.sfh-tr.nhs.uk

Patient Experience Team (PET)

PET is available to help with any of your compliments, concerns or complaints, and will ensure a prompt and efficient service.

King's Mill Hospital: 01623 672222

Newark Hospital: 01636 685692

Email: sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net

If you would like this information in an alternative format, for example large print or easy read, or if you need help with communicating with us, for example because you use British Sign Language, please let us know. You can call the Patient Experience Team on 01623 672222 or email sfh-tr.PET@nhs.net. This document is intended for information purposes only and should not replace advice that your relevant health professional would give you. External websites may be referred to in specific cases. Any external websites are provided for your information and convenience. We cannot accept responsibility for the information found on them. If you require a full list of references (if relevant) for this leaflet, please email sfh-tr.patientinformation@nhs.net or telephone 01623 622515, extension 6927.

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INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Wound care

Emergency Department

King's Mill Hospital

Mansfield Road
Sutton in Ashfield
Notts NG17 4JL
Telephone: 01623 622515, extension 2789

Newark Hospital

Boundary Road
Newark
Notts NG24 4DE
Telephone: 01636 681681

Depending on the type of wound you have, you may have been treated by suturing (stitches), wound closure strips (steristrips) or tissue adhesive glue (super-glue).

For all types of wound you should aim to keep the wound dry for five days. Do not cover the wound with waterproof fingerstalls, plastic bags, etc, unless advised, as this will make the wound soggy and potentially prone to infection.

Stitches

Depending on where your wound is, sutures should be removed in 5-10 days and the doctor or nurse will advise you on this. The sutures should be removed by your GP or practice nurse, and you should make plans early to book an appointment with them.

Wound closure strips

These can be removed after five to seven days. The wound should be moistened for about 10 minutes and the strips carefully removed. This can be done at home or by your GP practice nurse.

Tissue adhesive

Medical glue does not need to be removed as the glue drops off by itself when the wound is healed. The glue is a special 'medical glue' designed to treat wounds. Keep the wound clean and dry for five days. A scab will form on the wound, which will come away once you start washing the area.

Do not pick the wound

There is a small chance the wound will re-open. If this happens, please attend the Emergency Department and we will re-assess the injury.

Signs of infection

Occasionally, despite attempts to clean at the time and to keep the wound clean, the wound can become infected. Any excessive redness, swelling, green pus or discharge, offensive odour, or increased pain to your wound can be signs of a local skin infection which can be assessed and treated by your GP or local minor injuries unit (MIU).

If you develop any redness spreading away from the wound, tracking erythema (red lines extending away from the wound), or if you feel unwell or feverish, this can be a sign of a more serious infection for which you should seek an urgent review through your local Emergency Department.

