# PATIENT FACING POST APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



### **Dressing Instructions**

Do not touch or disturb the dressing between visits. The dressing should only be changed by your clinic or provider. You will only change this dressing if you are instructed to do so and have been instructed how to change it. Do not remove the dressing without discussing with your provider first.

### **Wound Complications and Infections**

While your provider will assess your wound for infections during follow up visits, it is important for you to look at your wound area between visits. If you believe you may have an infection, please call your provider to schedule an appointment immediately.

## Common signs of infection:

- The area around the dressing looks red or has swelling
- There seems to be a lot of fluid or pus seeping around the edges of the dressing (non-smelly drainage is normal)
- The area around the dressing feels hot when touched
- The dressing has a bad or sickly smell
- The skin around the dressing looks white and feels wet
- The wound appears to have extended beyond the dressing

# **Bathing**

Bathing or showering is permitted but the dressing cannot get wet. Do not use very hot water or harsh cleansing agents around the dressing. Pat the area dry and apply lotion afterward, taking care not to disturb the dressing. If you do get the dressing excessively wet, it must be replaced.

# Compression

Although compression bandaging can be uncomfortable, it is important that it be maintained and NOT removed, as it is an important element to heal your wound. If the compression bandaging slips badly, or becomes dislodged, please call the clinic to have it redone.

# **Visits Scheduling**

Do not miss any office/clinic visits so that your treatments can keep your wound healing.