
Care of Facial Wounds

The healing of wounds can be helped, with less scarring, if you are able to follow these instructions.

1. **They must be kept clean.** Simple soap and water applied to the wounds will be enough. Cotton buds will help to clean between the stitches and avoid a scab forming. If this happens, the removal of the stitches may be difficult, uncomfortable and scarring may be worse.
2. **Please take your antibiotics** if you have been prescribed them and make sure you finish the course. If you develop a rash or become unwell, stop taking the tablets and consult your own doctor – or contact us on the numbers below. You will also be given “Polyfax c” cream to use on the wound.
3. **You will have been given a tetanus injection if you are not covered.** This may have been a booster injection in which case no further action is required. If it is the start of a course then please contact your own doctor for the remainder.
4. **A further appointment will be given to you for removal of the stitches.** Make sure that you attend because if they are left in too long infection and scarring can result.
5. **The scar can take up to 18 months to settle and may become more pronounced during cold weather.** When the wound has completely healed gentle massage with a simple moisturising cream will help improve the overall appearance.

Remember, the Maxillofacial Surgery Team are here to help.

If you have any problems please ring the following numbers:-
01633 – 238372 or out of hours the ‘on call’ Maxillofacial SHO on:-
01633 - 234234