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Eyelid Surgery Post-Operative Instructions

- Your child should take things easy over the next week. No sports or Swimming for a week.
- You may begin icing now. Use a cloth soaked in ice water in a bowl, or cold gel packs for 10 minutes every 2 hours or so, the day of surgery. This decreases swelling. You may change to warm compresses for 10 minutes, 3-4 times per day in a few days once the initial swelling has resolved. This improves circulation.
- Be sure to place an old towel over your pillow to prevent staining. It is normal for the wounds to leak over the first night or two.
- Any sutures should be kept lubricated with **Maxitrol or Tobradex ointment twice a day for two weeks.**
- You may use a cleanser after 24 hours. Baby shampoo in warm water works well.

A follow up will have been scheduled for you, if necessary, at our office on 17th Ave SW. Sometimes follow up can be done with your referring doctor, if you are from out of town.

What is normal after surgery?

- Some bleeding and oozing are expected for the first day or two.
- Bruising, redness, and swelling often last two weeks or more, and are a normal reaction to the sutures.
- Small bumps and crusting around the sutures are common.
- Some sutures may come out in a few days. This is not a problem if the wound remains closed.
- Most people's lids still look puffy, uneven, and bruised for at least a week or two after the surgery. Don't panic! Complete healing can take months and there will be ongoing improvement.
- The incisions may get itchy, lumpy, or red for a time as they heal. This is normal!
- Numbness in the eyelash area is common for a month or so after surgery.

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What is NOT normal after surgery?

- Uncontrolled swelling, bruising, pain, or loss of vision are medical emergencies. If this happens, contact Dr. Hill.
- During office hours, call (403) 245 3171. You may also go to the nearest emergency department, or contact the ophthalmologist on call through the hospital switchboard.

- Excessive bleeding is rare. If your child should experience excessive bleeding, apply pressure on the wound with ice packs. Have them lie quietly with their head elevated. Contact us if the bleeding is uncontrolled.
- Loss of stitches and opening of the wound is not an emergency, but should be addressed within a day or two. Please call the office and we will arrange for you to be seen as soon as possible. Often the wound can be closed with tape or resutured without affecting the final scar.
- Yellow, green, or foul smelling pus draining from the incision is not normal. Please advise us as soon as possible.