Gleneagles Hospital
HONG KONG
港怡醫院

Hosp No.	:	HKID No.:	
Case No.	:		
Name	:		
DOB	:	M / F	
Adm Date	:		
Contact No.	:		

Procedure Information Sheet – Curettage & Cauterization

1. What is curettage & cauterization?

1.1. Curettage & cauterization is an operation in which your dermatologist scrapes off a skin lesion and applies heat to the skin surface. The skin lesion is scraped off with a curette, which is like a small ring with very sharp edges. The wound surface is cauterised with an electrosurgical unit. This stops bleeding and helps destroy any remaining skin lesion.

1.2. It is performed under local anesthesia. You will feel brief stinging pain when the local anesthetic is injected into the area surrounding the lesion to be treated. This will make the skin go numb so you should not feel any pain when the skin lesion is removed during the procedure.

2. How to prepare?

2.1. Before the procedure, inform your doctor if you:
- 2.1.1. Are taking any medicines
- 2.1.2. Have any allergies to any medicines, especially if you have had any reactions to local anaesthetic;
- 2.1.3. Have any bleeding problems or are taking blood-thinning medicines, such as aspirin or warfarin, etc.
- 2.1.4. Are or might be pregnant
- 2.1.5. Have any pacemaker, implanted defibrillators or other medical implants

2.2. No special preparation is needed before having this test. Take your regular medications as usual. You do not need to fast before the procedure.

3. What are the risks?

3.1. The main risks of curettage & cauterization are:
- 3.1.1. Wound pain and infection
- 3.1.2. Bleeding and bruising
- 3.1.3. Poor wound healing
- 3.1.4. Nerve damage
- 3.1.5. Post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation or hypopigmentation, change in skin colour
- 3.1.6. Scarring (hypertrophic scar/keloid i.e. overgrown scar, sunken scar, etc.)
- 3.1.7. Others: _____

3.2. The main risks of local anaesthesia are:
- 3.2.1. Allergy including anaphylactic drug reactions
- 3.2.2. Redness & itchiness at treatment/injection site(s)
- 3.2.3. Pain, bleeding or infection at injection site(s)

3.3. This information sheet provides general information pertaining to this operation. While common risks and complications are described, the list is not exhaustive, and the degree of risk could also vary between patients. Unexpected risks and complications not discussed may occur, rarely. Additional operation/therapeutic procedures may be performed if necessary.

3.4. Incomplete response or recurrence of treated areas is possible. You may need to undergo further operation or combine with other treatments in order to achieve the best results.

3.5. Please contact your doctor for detailed information and specific enquiry.

4. After the procedure

4.1. You will be given specific instructions on how to care for your biopsy site. Keep the biopsy site clean and dry until it heals completely. Care must be taken to protect the wound from trauma and wetting. Avoid strenuous exertion and stretching of the area. Follow instructions regarding when to have wound dressing and continue wound care until your skin has healed. There are no stitches to remove after curettage.

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4.2. Your wound may be tender 1-2 hours after the procedure when the local anaesthetic wears off. The site may be sore or bleed slightly for the first few days.

4.3. Contact our clinic if you have:

4.3.1. Excessive bleeding or discharge through the bandage. If excessive bleeding occurs, press on the wound firmly with a clean gauze and contactus

4.3.2. Worsening pain, spreading redness, or swelling around the biopsy site

4.3.3. Fever

4.3.4. Other concerns

4.4. The wound from curettage will take approximately 3-6 weeks to heal over. The scar will initially be red and raised but usually reduces in colour and size over several months.

I acknowledged the above information concerning the operation or procedure. I have also been given the opportunity to ask questions and received adequate explanations concerning the condition and treatment plan.

Patient/ Relative Signature: _____

Patient/ Relative Name: _____

Date: _____