

**Dr. Jennifer Robinson**

Plastic Surgeon

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## SKIN GRAFT POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

### IMPORTANT!

If any of the following occur please notify Dr. Robinson:

- Fever and chills
- Increasing pain rather than decreasing pain
- Redness extending around the wound
- Excessive bleeding

An appointment for dressing removal or postoperative visit should be scheduled for 5 -7 days postoperatively.

Please arrange this with:



Dr. Robinson's office

### Follow specific instructions below as marked:

#### Bolster Dressing

- You will have a pin-cushion-like dressing overtop of your skin graft tied down with sutures--this and all other dressings should be left on until your postoperative appointment in 5- 7 days
- Keep the area elevated as much as possible until your postoperative visit
- IF the surgery was on the lower extremity, you must not put any weight on your foot--crutches or a walker must be used
- The area where the graft was taken from may be covered with a cellophane dressing, which can be left on until it is healed in 2-3 weeks
- You may shower 24 hours after the surgery, as long as the area where the graft has been placed stays completely dry

#### VAC Dressing

- The vacuum like dressing will ensure your skin graft will have better "take"
- Leave the entire dressing undisturbed and dry until your postoperative appointment in 5-7 days
- IF the surgery was on the lower extremity, you must not put any weight on your foot—crutches or a walker must be used
- The area where the graft was taken from may be covered with a cellophane dressing, which can be left on until it is healed in 2-3 weeks
- If there are any problems with the VAC machine, call **(250) 370-8000** and ask for the **Burn Nurse** to be paged