Postoperative Care of Split Thickness Skin Graft

1. Leave the brown paper tape dressing on the main site until you come in for your next appointment. Keep it dry.

2. For the next 48 hours, you should keep your head elevated on two pillows when you lie down.

3. **FOR THE SKIN GRAFT HARVEST SITE:** Often the harvest site is on the buttocks or the thigh. Unless otherwise directed by your doctor, do not take this dressing off. Your doctor will remove it at your 1st follow-up visit. As the location is on your buttocks or thigh, please don’t bathe or otherwise soak the dressing or it will likely come off. If it does come-off simply call your doctor and he will instruct you on further care.

4. Do not take aspirin UNLESS prescribed by your physician. You should continue all prescribed medication. Try to avoid alcohol and tobacco, both of which impair your body’s ability to heal.

5. Do not do ANY bending over or lifting for the next seven days.

6. Do not sweat or do vigorous exercising that might put stitches under additional stress and interfere with proper healing.

7. If there is bleeding, apply firm, CONTINUOUS pressure for 20 minutes. If this does not stop the bleeding, please call the office or report to an emergency room.

8. Should you notice excessive redness, drainage, or swelling, please notify us.

*For Questions or Emergency Care:*
Call the office at **985-327-5905**. You may need to speak with the doctor on-call.