

Advice for patients treated with skin glue

Skin glue is a special type of medical adhesive. It joins the edges of a wound together, while the wound starts to heal underneath.

There are some simple steps you can take to help your wound heal:

- You should keep your wound dry for at least 5 days
- If the wound is on your head, you can wash your hair after 5 days
- Don't stick a plaster on top of the skin glue – it could pull the glue off. Most wounds closed with glue do not need an additional dressing, however if your doctor or nurse think you need a dressing they'll tell you what to use & how to use it.
- Don't put creams or lotions on your wound – these could make the glue come off too soon.
- Don't try to remove the skin glue or scratch and pick at your wound – it will come off by itself after about 7 – 10 days, and there is no danger of a tattooing effect.
- The scar will take approximately six months to fade

Most wounds closed with skin glue heal normally, and it is unlikely you will need to return to the department, unless complications develop, such as your wound re-opens or starts to bleed.

You should also seek medical advice if you think your wound may be infected. You might have an infection if

- The wound becomes more red & swollen
- The pain or soreness of your wound gets worse
- The wound begins to weep and discharge pus
- You have a fever

If you have any queries or concerns about your recent attendance, please contact us on 01709 424455.

Alternatively you could contact your GP or practice nurse for advice or visit an NHS walk-in-centre.

If you require this document in another language, large print, braille or audio version, please contact Patient Information on 01709 424281.

