Taking Care of Your Skin Graft

Note: Graft recipient site is where we put the borrowed skin
Graft donor is where we took/borrowed the skin from

Instructions for your skin graft donor site: right / left collarbone / sideburn / behind ear /

1. Leave the bandage we put on for 24-48 hours
2. After 24-48 hours, remove our bandage and clean the wound (see post-surgical wound care sheet)
3. Stitches will be removed in ____________ days by: your family doctor, dermatologist or our office

Instructions for your skin graft recipient site:

1. The graft is held in place with a stitched-in cotton ball covered in antibiotic ointment
   a. **Do not remove this! Your doctor will remove this in one week**
   b. Clean around the area with antibiotic ointment, just like the donor site
   c. You can cover the cotton ball with a light dressing if you like, for cosmetic reasons
2. After the cotton ball and stitches are removed (by your doctor)
   a. You may get the graft wet, but no direct shower stream on the site
   b. Continue to apply ointment to the area for 2 weeks
   c. You may cover with a light dressing if you like, for cosmetic reasons
   d. Protect the graft from sunlight as much as possible, sunscreen and make-up may be used in 2 weeks after the stitches are removed. Until then, a light dressing may protect from the sun.

Follow-up after stitches are removed should be scheduled for approximately 6 weeks after surgery.