## Mole Removal

## M. Kathryn Schaefer MD

850 W Hind Dr Suite 102 Aina Hina Professional Building Honolulu, HI 96821 808-261-1121 www.BotoxOahu.com

Although mole removal only takes minutes, post-surgery wound care should not be ignored, as it is important to perform proper wound care in order to prevent infection and minimize any scaring.

- Hydrogen peroxide, alcohol, and iodine may slow down the healing process, since those solutions may kill new growing cells. Thus, try not to use any of these solutions to care for a wound resulting from mole removal treatment. In most cases, soap and water is the best solution for washing off the wound.
- Wash the wounds twice a day using gentle soap and water to clean away any debris. Do
  not scrub, pick at, or scratch the wound. You can gently rub the area to soften any
  formed scabs.
- Apply a thin layer of plain Vaseline or over the counter antibiotic ointment to maintain a
  moist environment which will maximize new skin cell growth and minimize scarring.
   Vaseline will also protect the wound from hazardous bacteria.
- Bandage the wound and keep it sealed during the healing process. Change the bandage once or twice a day. Leaving a wound open will not heal it faster. Instead, scabs might form and the healing process will be inhibited.
- Do not expose post-surgery wounds to direct sunlight, as this might delay new cell formation. If you need to do outdoor activities, wear sunblock to protect healing surgical wounds from ultraviolet rays. Do this until the scar fades, which indicates thorough healing.
- If you have a mole removal treatment on your face, stop wearing make ups during the
  first stage of the healing process. Shaving should not be done as well as long as your
  surgical wound is still delicate. Shaving and makeup application can be done after the
  wound has healed.
- For the first few days avoid soaking the area with water, so no swimming, showering is OK.
- Watch for signs of infection, increased redness, pain, fever, or pus discharge. If you have any questions or concerns, call the office 808-261-1121.