

## Skin Biopsy

### *How to take care of the skin site*

Your child had a small piece of skin taken out. This is called a skin biopsy. The sample is taken to get a close look at the cells under a microscope. Before taking the sample of skin, your child got an injection of anesthesia to numb the area.

### What can I expect after a skin biopsy?

- The area will be covered with Steri-Strips and a tight bandage to keep it from bleeding too much.
- You can take the outer bandage off the day after the biopsy is taken. You should leave the Steri-Strips on until they fall off on their own.
- Have your child wait to bathe or shower until the outer bandage is removed. It's OK to get the Steri-Strips slightly wet, but avoid soaking the area in a tub for long periods of time.
- A small amount of blood on the outer bandage is normal.
- Most children do not need pain medicine after a skin biopsy. The effect of the numbing shot given before the biopsy was taken will last for about an hour.

### When should I call the clinic?

If you notice any of these warning signs, call:

\_\_\_\_\_ the Hematology-Oncology Clinic,  
(206) 987-2106

\_\_\_\_\_ the SCCA Clinic, (206) 288-7600

- Oozing of blood that leaks outside the bandage
- Fever of 101°F (38.3°C)
- Redness or swelling at the site
- Tenderness or pain at the site

For information or concerns about your child, call your child's clinic provider.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Hematology / Oncology, (206) 987-2106
- Your Child's Health Care Provider

*Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Please call Marketing Communications at (206) 987-5205.*

*This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Children's Hospital. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's health care provider.*