

BEN SERVICE, M.D.

BOARD CERTIFIED ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON

Shoulder and Elbow Specialist

Benjamin Service, MD, FAAOS

Wound Care: “Plastic Surgery” closure

- You had the surgical incision closed with absorbable sutures below the skin.
- This is sometimes called a “plastic surgery” closure.
- There is a special glue called Dermabond on the incision to help the incision heal.

Please DO	Please Do NOT
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Keep the incision covered with gauze for 2 weeks.2. Remove dressing before showering after surgery, then replace it after showering with fresh dry gauze when skin is dry.3. Examine the incision daily for: redness, opening, drainage of fluids (blood, pinkish fluid, or pus), and swelling.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Please do not place cream or ointment on incision.2. Do not peel the glue from the incision before the first appointment or the incision could have healing problems.

- If there is an emergency, please call **911**.
- If you are concerned about the incision, please call our office immediately at 321-842-0060.
- If you have an urgent concern about the wound during non-business hours
 - Call the Orthopedic resident on call at **321-842-0060, option 2, & option 2 again.**

Showering

Please DO	Please DO NOT
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You can shower the day after surgery with the incision and glue wet.2. Let the soapy water run over the incision—do not scrub.3. Pat dry and allow to air dry about 10 minutes before placing new dressings.4. After showering, place new dry gauze bandages and hold the gauze in place with Medipore tape.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Do not swim or bathe with the surgery site or incision(s) under water until cleared in the office.

Wound Evaluation

With the “plastic surgery” closure, typically no sutures need to be removed in the office. Our team will examine the incision to check for good healing at the first visit in the office. The glue will fall off on its own after 2 to 3 weeks. If the incision is well healed, normal skin care can be started after **3 weeks.**

Disclaimer: These instructions are for education purposes only to highlight the types of post surgical instructions that are given out by Dr. Service on a case by case basis.