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## **POSTOPERATIVE CARE FOR BAHA PATIENTS**

1. After your BAHA surgery you should remove the dressing approximately 48 hours after your surgery. Please look at the video in the link below.
2. After watching the video if you feel you could remove the dressing yourself or appoint someone to do it for you, go ahead. Make sure you clean your hands before you do that. If you feel unsure or too nervous to remove the dressing, we would be happy to have you see the nurse at Dr Ho's office to do it for you. Please contact Dr Ho's office using this email to arrange for removal of the dressing.
3. After removing the dressing, gently put the antibiotic ointment prescribed for you around the implant. You should use the antibiotic ointment regularly three times a day until your follow up appointment to remove the sutures. This should be applied in the morning, the afternoon and in the evening.
4. After removing the dressing you can now clean your hair in the normal way. Prior to washing your hair apply extra antibiotic ointment around the implant and on the wound. Do this gently as not to disrupt or stretch the wound or the sutures. Whilst washing your hair, please make sure you do not scrub around the implant and be very gentle around the wound. Shampoo and water running over the implant and wound is ok. After you wash your hair, dab the skin around the implant gently to dry the area around the implant. You should then reapply the antibiotic ointment around the implant and on the wound after you dry the surgical site. The times you apply the antibiotic ointment before and after washing your hair is in addition to the three regular applications a day.
5. A bit of bloody or clear discharge from the wound is normal up to 24 to 48 hours after removing the dressing. If you have discharge, increasing redness and increasing pain despite using pain killer medications after 48 hours after removing the dressing then please email the office.
6. You will meet up with the nurse for a wound check and a removal of sutures 2 weeks after the surgery. An appointment will be sent out to you for this to be done. Only in exceptional circumstances, you may request for your family doctor to do this for you if you have a long way to travel to get to us. If this is to happen, we would prefer a picture of the wound be sent to us at the time when the sutures have been removed.