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Stitches and Pin Care

If you have stitches:

- ↑ You must keep the area dry. You may sponge bathe around the stitches.
- ↑ **DO NOT** use ointments (Neosporin, Bacitracin) over stitches.
- ↑ Cover the area with clean and dry dressings

The dressings should not be so tight as to increase any swelling in your hand or fingers.

↑ If the dressing becomes wet or the incision drains, you need to change the dressing or come in to see the physician.

If you have a pin: Perform 2 times a day

↑ Keep the pin dry. Do not wash the area near the pin. **OR**

↑ You may clean the pin with Sterile Water (sterile saline) using a Q-tip. A separate Q-tip must be used for each pin to prevent from cross contamination of pins.

↑ You may clean the pins first with Hydrogen Peroxide and a Q-tip followed by using a Sterile water (sterile saline) and a second Q-tip. Separate Q-tips are used for each pin.

↑ You may cover your pins with a gauze pad that has been cut one-half way through and secure the gauze pad with tape.

Notify your physician if you have signs of infection including: significant pain, drainage/pus increases from incision or pins, there is a foul odor, redness develops around the pin sites, you have a fever or red line is noted traveling up your arm.