
What to expect during an in-office procedure: Removal of a scalp mass

- You or your child will be given a small injection of Lidocaine with epinephrine to numb the area. (Like the shot you get at the dentist). The area will be completely numb. There will not be any pain during the procedure.
- The lump, mass or patch will be removed (excised) and sent to the pathology laboratory for a biopsy to identify the lesion. You will receive the result of the biopsy at the follow up visit 1 week later.
- After the procedure, there will be stitches placed to close the area. Most of the stitches will be dissolvable. Some may need to be removed. These will be removed 1 week later at the follow up visit.
- Antibiotic ointment will be put on the excision site before you leave.
- Scalp masses are frequently pilar/ trichilemmal (hair follicle) cysts, lipomas (fatty masses), nevus sebaceus (hairless plaque with overgrowth of sebaceous glands) , pilomatrixomas (calcified hair cell cyst), or dermoid cysts (skin and solid structure containing cysts that are present at birth).

Discharge Instructions:

- Sleep with your head elevated for the next 2-3 nights to help decrease swelling.
- If bleeding occurs, apply constant pressure for a minimum of 5 minutes.
- Ice packs can be applied to the area for the next 24 hours.
- Tylenol or Ibuprofen can be taken for any pain or discomfort. (See infant/child dosing chart for the right dose for babies and children.)
- Keep the head dry for 24 hours. After that, wash the area with soap and water daily. Do not use conditioner or apply hair products to the area. Do not immerse the area in water for 2 weeks. No swimming with head under the water for 2 weeks.
- Apply antibiotic ointment (like Bacitracin or Neosporin 2x per day) for 5-7 days.
- If stitches are taking longer than 3 weeks to dissolve, gently rub the stitches with a soapy washcloth when bathing.

Please call the office or nurse practitioner (347-502-1439) if...

- You or your child have a fever greater than 100.5 °F.
- There is a lot of bleeding and it won't stop. A little bit of blood is fine.
- You notice a funny odor, or yellow, pus- like discharge.