

Caring for wounds closed with glue

A nurse or doctor has cleaned your child's wound. A special skin glue has been used to keep the edges of the wound together and protect it while it heals.

How to look after your child's wound

- Keep the wound dry. Try and keep it completely dry for the first 24 hours. After this your child can have a brief shower or bath. Gently pat the wound dry, do not rub.
- Avoid soaking the wound for the first 7 days. This includes soaking in the bath or going swimming.
- Do not let your child pick or scratch the wound. The glue will fall off by itself, and this can take up to 3 weeks.
- Do not use creams or ointments over the glue as this can make it softer.

At first your child might need regular painkillers. Use paracetamol and/or ibuprofen as instructed on the packets. If your child has a pre-existing medical condition, please speak to a doctor or nurse for advice on pain relief.

When to get help

Contact your GP or come back to the Emergency Department (A&E) if:

- the wound re-opens or starts bleeding
- the wound shows signs of infection such as:
 - increasing redness or swelling of the area around the wound
 - pus, discharge, or an unpleasant smell from the wound
 - your child develops a temperature (over 38C)

Wound aftercare

Once the wound has healed:

- massaging the scar 2 times a day with a moisturiser or oil will help improve its appearance
- the scar will be sensitive to sun damage so make sure it is covered up or sun cream is used before sun exposure

NHS 111

NHS 111 is a telephone service that offers support and advice 24 hours a day. Please call 111 if you have concerns about your child's health. A fully trained advisor will direct you to appropriate resources or services.

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A list of sources is available on request