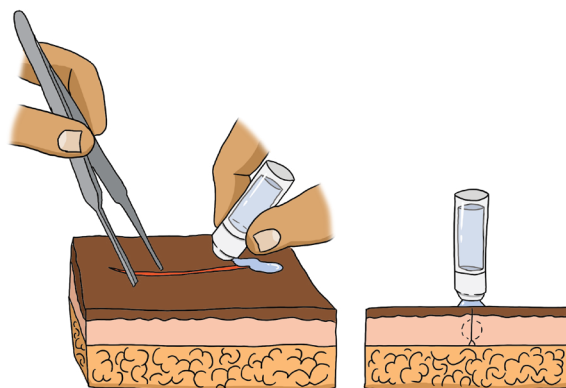




Wound closure with Dermabond® glue

Dermabond® is special glue that holds the skin of a wound together. Glue can be better than stitches for some wounds; it stays on for **5 - 10 days** to give the wound time to heal.



After care

- Do not let bub rub, scratch or pick at the Dermabond®; this can reopen the wound.
- A dressing is not needed but if bub rubs or picks at the wound, a dressing can be put on for a few days.
- Keep the wound clean.
- Keep the wound dry for the first 24 hours.
- After 24 hours the wound can get wet, but make sure to pat it dry gently.
- No soaking the wound in the bath or swimming for **1 week**.

Healing and scarring

Scars are a normal part of healing, it is important to take good care of the wound so scarring is less.

- For the first 6 - 8 weeks after the injury, the scar will change in colour and thickness as it heals.
- Scars can take up to 2 years to heal , it depends on the size and depth of the wound, skin type and how the scar is looked after.

Signs to look out for when the wound is not healing

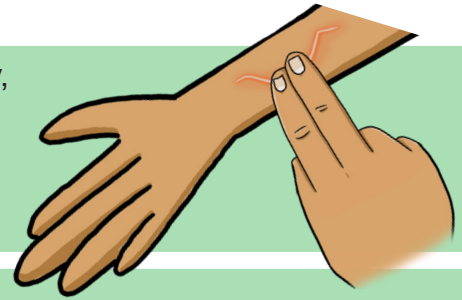
- Painful
- Itchy
- Hard
- Red
- Raised
- Less movement
- Stays purple colour



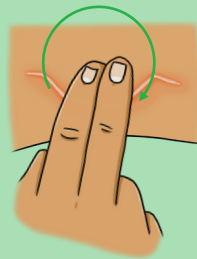
Looking after bub's scar

Massage

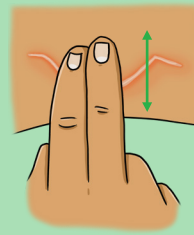
- **2 to 4 weeks** after the injury, massage the scar 2 times a day, for 5 to 10 mins.
- Massage along the same direction as the cut.
- Do not massage the scar if it is open or infected.



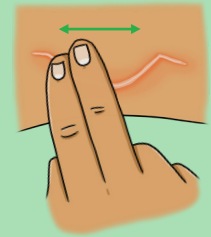
- **After about 4 weeks**, the scar can be massaged in the other direction.
- Continue the daily massages until the scar is pale and thin -the scar should go from pink to pale.
- Massaging the scar should not hurt.
- **Moisturising** with Vitamin E cream or Sorbolene softens the scar and helps when massaging.



circular



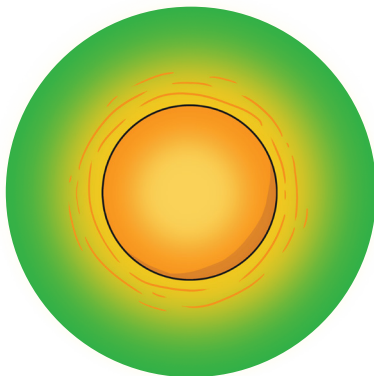
up and down



side to side



Sun protection



Protect the scar from the sun, it can change the scar colour



Always put sunscreen (SPF 30) or zinc cream on the scar



Wear clothes that cover the scar, it is important bub stays in the shade



Government of Western Australia
Child and Adolescent Health Service

Child and Adolescent Health Service
15 Hospital Avenue, Nedlands, WA, 6009.
Telephone: (08) 6456 2222
Produced by: Surgical Short Stay Unit
Ref: 304.1 © CAHS 2021

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

Disclaimer: This publication is for general education and information purposes. Contact a qualified healthcare professional for any medical advice needed.

© State of Western Australia, Child and Adolescent Health Service.