Post-procedure Care/Instructions for Permanent Partial Nail Removal

Office Phone: 208-762-0909

1. Keep today’s bandage on until tomorrow. A bit of visible blood through the bandage is ok, however if you develop any dripping blood or continued bleeding, keep your foot elevated and alert Dr. Hix.

2. Begin soaking your foot tomorrow. Do this twice a day for about 10-15 minutes using a clean basin or bowl and warm tap water with a few teaspoons of Epsom salt. As an alternative you may use a few teaspoons of antibacterial liquid hand soap or Betadine. These are all easily obtained at any pharmacy.

3. After soaking, dry the toe with a clean cloth or paper towel and apply a small dab of antibiotic ointment in the area where the nail was removed and cover this with a band-aid. Keep it covered day and night for the first week. During the second week you can keep it covered during the day but leave it open to the air to dry out at night. Once wound drainage has completely stopped and there is a dry stable scab in the corner, you can discontinue soaking, topical antibiotic ointment and band-aid.

4. If you were given a prescription for antibiotics make sure you fill this as soon as possible and take them as directed. Try not to miss any doses as this decreases the effectiveness of the antibiotics.

5. Some discomfort around the nail is normal but seldom requires any pain medication. If it is sore, take what you would normally take for headaches or minor aches and pains and avoid strenuous physical activity for a few days.

6. Some clear drainage for the treated area is normal and may last several weeks, however, watch for signs of potential recurring or worsening infection such as increasing pain redness and swelling in the toe, continued or increased drainage or pus, red streaking up your foot and or leg, fever or chills. If you should experience any of these call and alert Dr. Hix at 208-762-0909. If after hours or over a weekend there will be a message with further instructions.

7. Make sure to attend your follow up appointment and don’t hesitate to call the office with any concerning questions or symptoms.