

## **Patient information and consent to Punch Biopsy:**

A biopsy is a medical procedure that involves taking a small sample of tissue to be examined under a microscope. This can be taken from anywhere on (or in) your body. How the biopsy is carried out will depend on where the tissue sample is being taken from.

After the tissue sample has been taken the cells will be closely examined under a microscope to see whether or not they appear abnormal or behave abnormally. Biopsies are used to identify abnormal cells. The result of biopsy can often help healthcare professionals to diagnose a wide range of conditions.

**PLEASE ARRIVE 10 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT TIME**

### **Punch biopsy :**

The procedure you are having is called punch biopsy, which is one of the many ways of performing a biopsy.

During this procedure you will receive a local anaesthetic to numb the area. Then with the aide of a special surgical instrument a small hole will be made in your skin and the sample of your skin taken out for examination. More than one punch biopsy may be required depending upon the condition investigated.

The wound will be closed with either stitches or special wound closure tapes (steristrips) depending on size and position.

### **Complications :**

This is a fairly straightforward and short procedure with complications being very uncommon but the following may happen.

- Unexpected bleeding : this may occur in people who are prone to bleed ( such as those on certain medications or a family history). If you are on aspirin , clopidogrel or any other blood thinners please mention it to your GP or nurse before the planned procedure.
- Wound infection: there is up to 5% chance of infection in any surgical wound. In most cases this can be treated with antibiotics.
- Delayed wound healing: this is likely if the procedure done is in lower legs or if you have certain medical conditions like diabetes.
- Scarring: you will certainly have a scar at the site of the procedure. The surgeon will try to repair the skin so scarring is minimum.

### **Looking after your wound:**

Leave the dressing in place for 48 hours or as advised. Avoid strenuous exertion and stretching of the area until the stitches are removed and for some time afterwards.

If there is any bleeding, press on the wound firmly with a clean folded towel without removing the existing dressing or looking at it for 20 minutes. If it is still bleeding after this time, seek medical attention.

Keep the wound dry for 48 hours. You can then gently wash and dry the wound. A small amount of pinkness and tenderness to touch around the wound edges is normal but, if the wound becomes increasingly red or painful speak to your doctor.

The scar will initially be red and raised but usually reduces in colour and size over several months.

## CONSENT TO TREATMENT

Proposed procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

### Statement of doctor

I have explained the procedure to the patient including the benefits and most frequently occurring risks (see above), and answered any particular concerns of this patient.

The procedure will involve local anaesthetic Yes/ No

Signed :

Date :

Name ( print):

Job Title :

### Statement of patient

Please read this form carefully, including the benefits and risks of the proposed treatment: if you have any further questions please ask – we are here to help. You have the right to change your mind at any time, including after you have signed this form.

I agree to the procedure described on this form.

Signed:

Date :

Name (print) :

### Statement of interpreter (if necessary)

I have interpreted the information above to the patient to the best of my ability and in a way which I believe he/she can understand.

Signed :

Date :

Name (print):