



Removal of K-wires (Kirschner wires): aftercare advice

Information for patients from Day Surgery

Following your surgery, K-Wires were inserted to help you to heal. The wires have now been removed. The size of your wound will depend on the position and number of wires you have.

Do my stitches need to be removed?

Your wound has been closed with stitches. You will be told before you are discharged from hospital whether the stitches need to be removed or whether they are dissolvable (dissolve on their own).

How do I care for my dressing?

You will be sent home from hospital with a dressing covering your wound. This will include a dry dressing to cover the wound, some gauze, and a crepe bandage. We advise you to wear loose clothing, as the total dressing will be fairly bulky.

The day following your surgery you can remove the bandage and gauze, leaving just a dry dressing. The dry dressing should remain in place until any stitches are removed.



What if I have any concerns about my wound?

If you experience excessive bleeding, please contact one of the Day Surgery Centres as soon as possible.

If you experience any pain, take painkillers as prescribed. If you are already taking other painkillers, please speak to a member of Day Surgery staff or your GP for advice to avoid an overdose.

- Channel Day Surgery, **William Harvey Hospital**, Ashford
Telephone: 01233 61 62 63 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)
- Canterbury Day Surgery Centre, **Kent and Canterbury Hospital**
Telephone: 01227 78 31 14 (7:30am to 8pm)
Telephone: 07887 68 76 45 (8pm to 7:30am)
- Day Surgery Unit, **Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital**, Margate
Telephone: 01843 23 44 99 (7:30am to 8pm)
Telephone: 07887 65 11 62 (8pm to 7:30am)

This leaflet has been produced with and for patients

If you would like this information in **another language, audio, Braille, Easy Read, or large print** please ask a member of staff. You can ask someone to contact us on your behalf.

Any complaints, comments, concerns, or compliments please speak to your doctor or nurse, or contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 01227 78 31 45, or email ekh-tr.pals@nhs.net

Patients should not bring in large sums of money or valuables into hospital. Please note that East Kent Hospitals accepts no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property, unless the property had been handed in to Trust staff for safe-keeping.

Further patient leaflets are available via the East Kent Hospitals web site www.ekhufft.nhs.uk/patientinformation