



## WHAT IS A BIOPSY?

A “Biopsy” is the removal of a small sample of a growth on the skin by your dermatologist. The sample is then sent to a pathologist, a doctor who examines this sample under a microscope and renders a diagnosis regarding the type of growth or disease present.

Your doctor then reviews the pathologist’s findings and coordinates that with his/her observation of your condition. Knowing the type of growth or disease helps your doctor determine the best possible way to treat you.

There are charges from two places when a biopsy is performed:

1. The dermatologist for removal of the tissue to be examined, and
2. The pathologist for the preparation and evaluation of the tissue under the microscope.

## CARE OF THE BIOPSY SITE

1. Wash your hands with soap and water.
2. Cleanse the biopsy site with soap and water, saline solution or ½ part Hydrogen peroxide mixed with ½ part water.
3. Thoroughly dry the area and apply a small amount of Vaseline or antibiotic ointment.
4. Place a small dressing or band aid over the wound until the wound is healed.

*Studies show that wounds heal better when covered by ointment and a dressing.*