JOHN WILLIAMS M.D.

Abscess Incision and Drainage

You underwent incision and drainage of an abscess with placement of local anesthetic and packing. The local anesthetic will provide temporary pain relief and is expected to wear off within several hours.

Packing has been placed within the abscess cavity. You were instructed to leave the packing in place for approximately 24 hours prior to removal. Removal may be facilitated by first removing the outer dressing and showering, allowing warm water to loosen the packing for easier removal.

After packing removal, place a clean gauze dressing over the wound. I will tell you whether or not you need to place packing back in the wound

The cavity where your abscess was will close with time and heal down to a scar.

A small amount of drainage or oozing is expected. If bleeding occurs, direct pressure over the area is typically sufficient to control it.

You may shower and allow soap and water to run over the wound. No additional wound cleansing agents, including hydrogen peroxide, are recommended.

Pain management was discussed, and analgesic medication has been prescribed as appropriate.

The role of antibiotics was reviewed; antibiotics will be prescribed based on clinical indication.

Activity may be resumed as tolerated. Use pain as a guide for activity level.

We generally make a follow-up appointment for you prior to leaving. That is for wound evaluation

If you have a fever greater than 101.5, have a high heart rate, redness continues to expand, or in general are not feeling improved, do not hesitate to call the clinic

Patients have the natural inclination to call their primary care physician with questions. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our clinic. Your primary care provider is going to recommend that you call us since we were the clinic that performed her procedure.

These are general guidelines and should be taken as such

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the clinic at 979-977-3490.