PATIENT INFORMATION
Excision of a Skin Lesion
**Surgery**

In order to ensure a well healed scar, it is important to plan the excision to ensure any scaring is hidden in the lines of normal skin creases.

- The area to be excised is usually planned as an ellipse of skin.
- Local anaesthetic is injected around the area of the lesion (using a very fine needle) to completely block pain from the area. You will stay awake during the procedure.
- The lesion will then be excised, and the skin closed with sutures.

Depending upon the site, the sutures may be dissolvable (will not need to be removed) or non-absorbable sutures (will need to be removed). If the stitches need to be removed, the timing will be dependent on the position of the wound.

The lesion will usually be sent to the pathology laboratory to determine its nature.

**After Surgery**

After the procedure it is important to keep the wound covered and dry for 24 hours.

After 24 hours, the wound will be sealed over, and you will be able to have a bath or a shower. Depending upon the position of the wound you may prefer to keep it covered by a dressing to stop the stitches rubbing.

If the lesion is sent to the laboratory for examination, the results will usually be available after 1 week.