

SafeGuard Focus

Compression Device for Implantable Device Incisions

Your physician has requested you remove this dressing on

Date: _____



You have been discharged home with a special dressing called the SafeGuard Focus by Merit Medical. The dressing has an air bladder that provides consistent pressure at the incision site. This specialized dressing is intended to reduce potential bleeding and/or bruising of your incision. Please read the following instructions for safe removal.

Before Removal:

- Please don't get the dressing wet; and don't shower while the dressing is on.
- If the dressing is falling off and the air bladder seal is compromised, you may remove the dressing ahead of schedule.
- Please make an appointment with your primary care practitioner seven days after your procedure to review your incision site.

Safe Removal:

- Before removing the dressing, ensure that you and your support person have washed your hands thoroughly and have a clean working surface.
- Peel the dressing back slowly. If the dressing is difficult to remove, push gently on the skin, providing support and traction as you pull back the dressing.
- Inspect the incision for any signs of infection: puffiness, redness or red streaking, fever, warmth, increased pain, or drainage of cloudy or yellow drainage. If you see signs of infection, please seek medical care urgently. It is normal for the incision to be a bit red, slightly swollen and itchy or numb for the first two weeks.
- If the incision actively bleeds, please put gentle pressure on the incision for five minutes. If the site continues to bleed, seek medical attention.
- Once the SafeGuard dressing is off you may shower, but don't use or allow any soaps or shampoo to enter the wound; we must minimize the possibility of infection.
- Do not go in a hot tub, pool, bath or any body of water until the incision has fully healed.
- Please do not put creams, oils or powders on the incision site until the skin is fully healed.
- You may now cover the incision site with a new, dry, sterile dressing, which should be removed and replaced every 48 hours. Alternatively, you can leave the incision uncovered; covering your incision after the first week is unnecessary.
- Please review the patient care handout "Going home after your Cardiac Device, Pacemaker Implant, or Pacemaker Lead Revision" for additional recovery instructions.