

## What To Watch For After Your Surgery

- I. All skin surgery will cause scarring. It is impossible to cut the skin with today's technology without leaving a scar. Scars always improve with time. You need to be patient because the scar will not have its final appearance for six to twelve months after the surgery. If the scar has redness after one month or if it starts to elevate above the skin, you need to schedule an appointment right away. This could be a sign that a thick scar or keloid is forming. If the doctor sees a keloid or hypertrophic scar forming he can often stop or reverse it. This can be done by injecting it with cortisone or by prescribing a medication to put on it.
- II. Most scars on the back, thighs, shoulders, neck and upper arms get wide. Sometimes an inch or more in width.
- III. Most patients will have numbness in the area of their surgery for six months, but this can last up to two years. Eventually the numbness will go away. Be patient.
- IV. Sometimes a blood clot will form under the skin. If this occurs you will have a hard lump in the area for six to twelve months until your body absorbs it. If you develop a blood clot, see the doctor.
- V. If the lesion the doctor removed shows any sign of coming back, call the office right away so you can be seen by the doctor.

# Cumberland Dermatology

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