Fingernail Removal

Fingernails may need to be removed because of injury, infections, or correction of abnormal growth. A special non-stick bandage has been put on your finger tightly to prevent bleeding. Fingernails will usually grow back if the finger has not been badly injured and you carefully follow instructions.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- Keep your hand elevated above your heart to relieve pain and swelling.
- Keep your dressing dry and clean.
- Change your bandage in 24 hours.
- After your bandage is changed, soak your hand in warm soapy water for 10 to 20 minutes. Do this 3 times per day. This helps reduce pain and swelling. After soaking your hand, apply a clean, dry bandage. Change your bandage if it is wet or dirty.
- Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain, discomfort, or fever as directed by your caregiver.
- See your caregiver as needed for problems.
- You may have received an instruction to follow up with your caregiver or a specialist. The failure to follow up as instructed could result in the permanent loss of a fingernail.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION IF:

- You have increased pain, swelling, drainage or bleeding.
- An oral temperature above 102° F (38.9° C) develops, or as your caregiver suggests, not controlled by medicine.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Understand these instructions.
- Will watch your condition.
- Will get help right away if you are not doing well or get worse.

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