Finger Avulsion
(Loss of The Tip of The Finger)

When the tip of the finger is lost, a new nail may grow back if part of the fingernail is left. The new nail may be deformed. If just the tip of the finger is lost, no repair may be needed unless there is bone showing. If bone is showing, your caregiver may need to remove the protruding bone and put on a bandage. Your caregiver will do what is best for you. Most of the time when a fingertip is lost, the end will gradually grow back on and look fairly normal, but it may remain sensitive to pressure and temperature extremes for a long time.

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 or as directed.
- After your bandage is changed, soak your hand in warm soapy water for 10 to 15 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.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE IF:

- You have increased pain, swelling, drainage, or bleeding.
- An oral temperature above 102° F (38.9° C) develops, or your temperature remains high and is not controlled by medication.
- You have swelling which spreads from your finger and into your hand.

Make sure to check to see if you need a tetanus booster.

Document Released: 04/07/2004 Document Re-Released: 03/16/2010
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