Ear Injuries, Auricle Injuries

You have an injury to your external ear (*auricle*). The ear has a layer of skin over cartilage. A cut or bruise to the ear can separate the skin from the cartilage underneath. This can cause problems with healing if blood gathers between the skin and the cartilage. Permanent damage to the ear may result if the excess blood is not drained within 1-2 days.

Stitches, tape, or tissue glue may be used to close a cut. A pressure bandage may be used to keep blood from forming under the injured skin. If there is a lot of blood present, (*hematoma*) a needle aspiration may be needed to remove it. **You must have the ear checked within 1-2 days or as directed if you have had this type of injury. This is see if the blood has accumulated again.** Call your caregiver for a follow-up exam as recommended.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF YOU DEVELOP:

- Severe pain.
- Fever or pus like drainage.
- Increased hearing loss or other problems.

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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