



Sebaceous cyst and lipoma removal

What will happen?

Local anaesthetic is injected into the skin around the lump (cyst/lipoma). This will sting. During the procedure you will feel pressure but not pain. A small cut is made across the lump and the cyst/lipoma gently removed from the surrounding tissue. Once it has been removed the wound is sutured (stitched) closed. Sometimes soluble sutures (that disintegrate over time and do not need to be removed) are put in underneath the sutures that are on the skin surface.

Risks

- Infection:-precautions are taken to minimise the risk but if your wound becomes increasingly hot red or painful you must contact your doctor.
- Bleeding.
- Nerve damage: though rare, damage to nerves is possible, particularly in areas where they lie closer to the surface of the skin, such as the fingers, the wrist, and the area behind the ear. Reports suggest this will disappear within several months.
- Recurrence:-it is possible for sebaceous cysts and lipomas to recur.
- The surgery will leave a scar.

What will happen afterwards?

After the procedure, you are advised to keep the wound clean and dry. The dressing can be removed after 24 hours (and replaced if needed to protect the wound). You can wash the treated area but do not soak it and we advise you not to go swimming until the area has healed over. It is best to keep the area as dry as possible until any stitches have been removed.

You may need to use your usual painkiller for discomfort occurring once the local anaesthetic has worn off.

The treated area should be protected from direct sunlight.

The scar will initially be red, fading over time. You are advised to protect it from direct sunlight.
