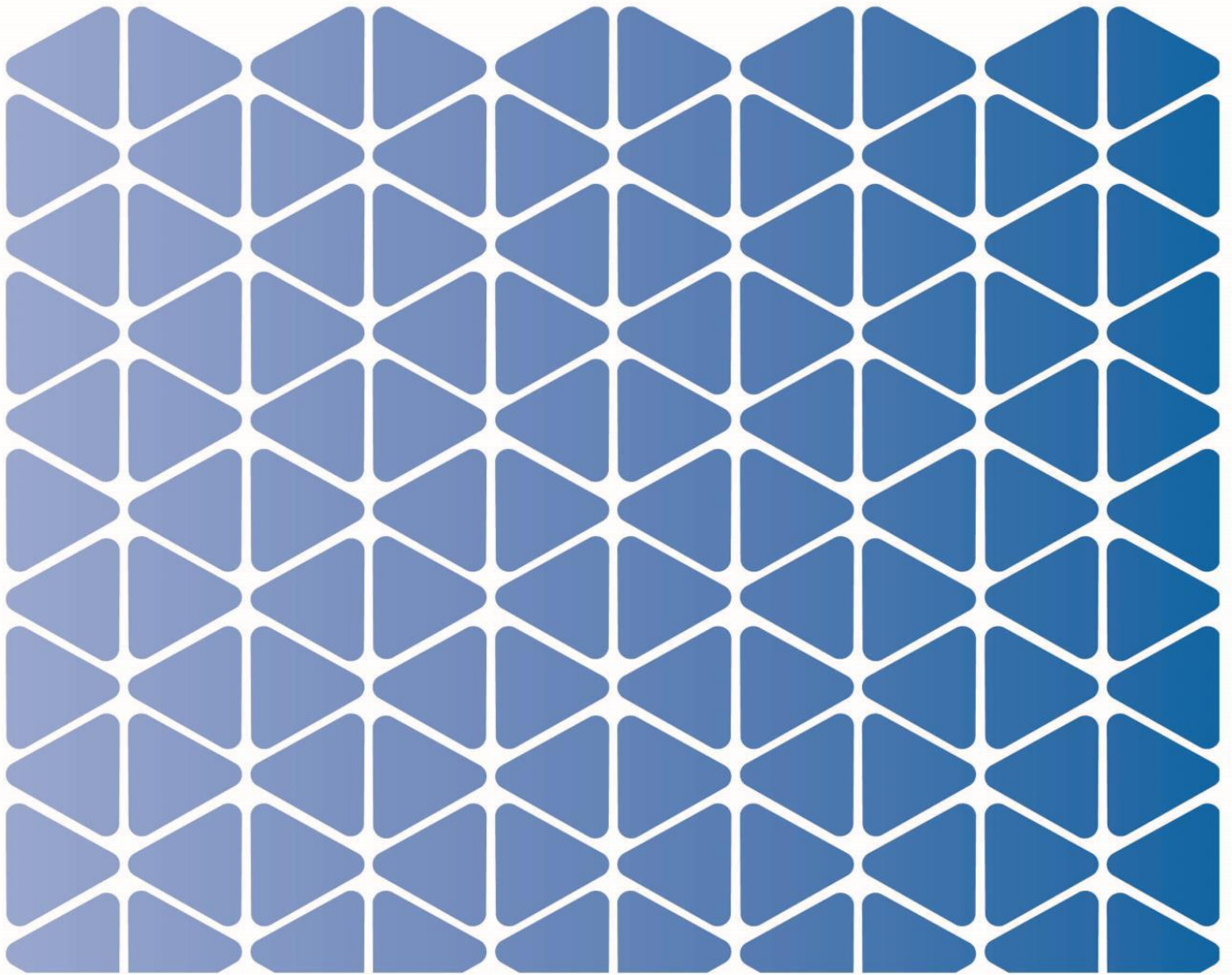




PATIENT INFORMATION

YOUR WOUND AFTER CRYOTHERAPY



Introduction

You have received treatment with Liquid Nitrogen. This is a quick and simple technique that destroys unwanted tissue by freezing it.

Pain and discomfort

The area being treated will normally be painful for several minutes and may ache for an hour or two afterwards.

You may take a painkiller such as Paracetamol or Soluble Aspirin, but do not exceed the recommended dose.

Blistering

Most patients experience some degree of blistering or weeping, which can be alarming if a large area has been treated – THIS IS NORMAL.

If the blistering is very troublesome, it may be possible to pierce and remove the fluid with a sterilised needle. This process can be repeated until the blister no longer reforms.

Cover the area with a dry dressing. Smaller blisters are best left alone as they will dry up in a few days.

If the blister appears to become infected please contact the number below or your own GP.

Once the area has dried a blackish scab will form. This will take up to 3 weeks to drop off and the new skin underneath will look pink and shiny but will fade in time.

Washing

You can wash the area but do not soak it. Avoid swimming until the area has scabbed over.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the nursing staff on:

Alexandra Hospital

01527 503030

Ext 44518

Worcester Royal Hospital

01905 760275

An answerphone is available so please leave a message giving your name and telephone number and someone will get back to you.

If your symptoms or condition worsens, or if you are concerned about anything, please call your GP, 111, or 999.

Patient Experience

We know that being admitted to hospital can be a difficult and unsettling time for you and your loved ones. If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak with a member of staff on the ward or in the relevant department who will do their best to answer your questions and reassure you.

Feedback

Feedback is really important and useful to us – it can tell us where we are working well and where improvements can be made. There are lots of ways you can share your experience with us including completing our Friends and Family Test – cards are available and can be posted on all wards, departments and clinics at our hospitals. We value your comments and feedback and thank you for taking the time to share this with us.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

If you have any concerns or questions about your care, we advise you to talk with the nurse in charge or the department manager in the first instance as they are best placed to answer any questions or resolve concerns quickly. If the relevant member of staff is unable to help resolve your concern, you can contact the PALS Team. We offer informal help, advice or support about any aspect of hospital services & experiences.

Our PALS team will liaise with the various departments in our hospitals on your behalf, if you feel unable to do so, to resolve your problems and where appropriate refer to outside help.

If you are still unhappy you can contact the Complaints Department, who can investigate your concerns. You can make a complaint orally, electronically or in writing and we can advise and guide you through the complaints procedure.

How to contact PALS:

Telephone Patient Services: 0300 123 1732 or via email at: wah-tr.PET@nhs.net

Opening times:

The PALS telephone lines are open Monday to Thursday from 8.30am to 4.30pm and Friday: 8.30am to 4.00pm. Please be aware that a voicemail service is in use at busy times, but messages will be returned as quickly as possible.

If you are unable to understand this leaflet, please communicate with a member of staff.