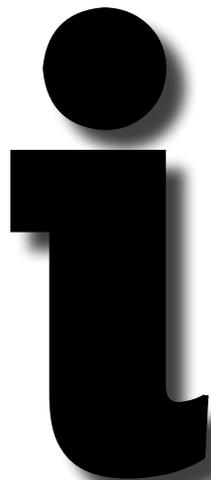


## ***Discharge advice for parents whose child has had cleft lip revision surgery***



If you need your information in another language or medium (audio, large print, etc) please contact Customer Care on 0800 374 208 or send an email to: [customer care@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:customer care@salisbury.nhs.uk)

You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

If you are unhappy with the advice you have been given by your GP, consultant, or another healthcare professional, you may ask for a second (or further) opinion.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

1. the stitches in the lip are dissolvable and can take a month to completely disappear
2. giving medicine regularly to relieve pain is important, to keep the pain under control. Your nurse specialist and ward nurses will give you advice about this
3. the lip wound is protected by a layer of skin glue which runs the length of the top lip. It gives the lip a blue/black appearance. This glue should be left to lift off on its own and this can take up to 14 days after surgery. Do not try to remove it yourself
4. it is usual for the lip scar to appear red and lumpy. After about a month, it will gradually become pale and flatter
5. from four weeks after surgery start massaging the lip scar twice a day with a non-scented moisturising cream. Your nurse specialist can give you advice about this. Massage helps reduce lumpy scar tissue and can improve scar appearance
6. because scar tissue burns very easily, when out in the sun, use a hat to shade the lip and then after six weeks use a total sun block cream for a period of two years after surgery (you can then reduce the factor according to your child's skin type and age)
7. an outpatients appointment for your baby to be seen in the Combined Cleft Clinic two to three months after the operation will be sent to you in the post
8. contact telephone numbers to use if you are worried about your baby are below:

**Nichola Hudson, Lead Clinical Nurse Specialist - 07717805724**  
**Maureen Warren, Clinical Nurse Specialist – 07717805721**  
**Sarum Ward 01722 336262 ext. 2560/2561**