



Lumps and Bumps (1 of 2)

You have been referred to us with one of the following problems and have chosen to have the lump or bump removed.

Lipoma

This is a well-defined lump of fatty tissue just under the skin. It tends to grow over time and it can ache. You may be worried about how it appears to other people.

You do not have to have it removed if you do not want to.

Skin lesion

This is usually an innocent irregularity of the skin. It can be unsightly and catch on clothing and also when combing your hair etc.

It can be left as it is if you prefer. However, if there is any doubt about what the lesion might be, it is better to have it removed.

What will happen before the operation?

You will be seen by a surgeon who will examine your lump or bump. The details of the operation will be explained to you and you will be asked to sign a consent form. Please ask if there is anything that you do not understand about the planned operation.

As you will be having a local anaesthetic you can eat and drink normally before the operation.

Although you remain fully awake for the operation we advise you to arrange for someone to drive you home afterwards.

How is my lump or bump removed?

It will be removed under local anaesthetic. The surrounding skin is numbed by injecting some local anaesthetic just under the skin with a small needle.

A small cut is made over the lump and it is pulled up out of the cut and detached from the tissue underneath. The wound is then stitched up.

There will be a skin scar but we will make it as neat and tidy as possible.

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: customercare@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.

Please complete The Friends & Family Test to tell us about your experience at: www.salisbury.nhs.uk/FriendsFamily or download our App from the Apple App store or Google Play Store.

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

Day Surgery Unit (7.30am - 7pm)
01722 336262 ext 4550

What are the possible risks of the operation?

The risk	What happens?	What can be done about it?
Scar formation	Any operation will leave a fine white scar	This is unavoidable. We will close the wound as neatly as possible
Infection	The wound becomes painful, tender and may discharge pus	You may need antibiotics
Bleeding	Blood may come through the wound or as a bruise afterwards	Bleeding usually stops within a few minutes from direct pressure. Very rarely you may need to go back to theatre to have the bleeding stopped
Recurrence	The lesion may come back	A further operation may be needed

Wound care (this section of the leaflet will be completed by the nurses)

Your wound has been closed with either:

- dissolvable stitches which do not need to be removed, or
- stitches which need to be removed 7 - 10 days after the operation.

You can remove the small protective dressing after 48 hours.

Please make an appointment with your practice nurse on for a dressing check. If your stitches need to be removed, an appointment can be made at this time.

If you have any concerns about your wound because it is red, hot, swollen or painful please contact your GP or practice nurse straight away.

When can I return to my normal activities?

For a few days after the operation the wound will be slightly sore. It is sensible to avoid doing anything that causes you pain. Otherwise you may return to your normal daily activity. You may take a shallow bath or shower as you wish, but should avoid soaking in the bath or swimming, (or washing your hair if the wound is on your head), until the wound is fully healed as this may delay normal healing. The wound should heal in about one week after the operation.

Is there anything I should do when I am home?

You will be given a letter for your GP. Please remember to hand this in within the next few days. You do not need to make an appointment to see your doctor, but the letter will be of help if you have any problems after the operation.

Do I need a follow-up appointment?

You will not normally be given a follow-up appointment. All removed tissue is sent to be examined under a microscope. In the unlikely event that any further treatment is needed you will be contacted directly.

For advice after leaving hospital please telephone the Day Surgery Unit or contact your GP.