
When you need a third hand, tape and gauze will do



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SURGICAL CHALLENGE

Skin biopsies are commonly performed in daily practice. It is not uncommon for the physician to do the procedure without having an assistant. Bleeding from the biopsy site might be a source of inconvenience for the surgeon. This is especially true if no assistant is available to apply pressure over the site or wipe away the blood.

SOLUTION

A pad made of multiple 2×2 pieces of gauze can be used (Fig 1). The pad is placed 2-3 cm away from the biopsy site in the direction of gravity. The pad is then fixed in place by tape. Any blood coming from the biopsy site will be absorbed by the gauze pad while the surgeon continues the procedure (Fig 1).

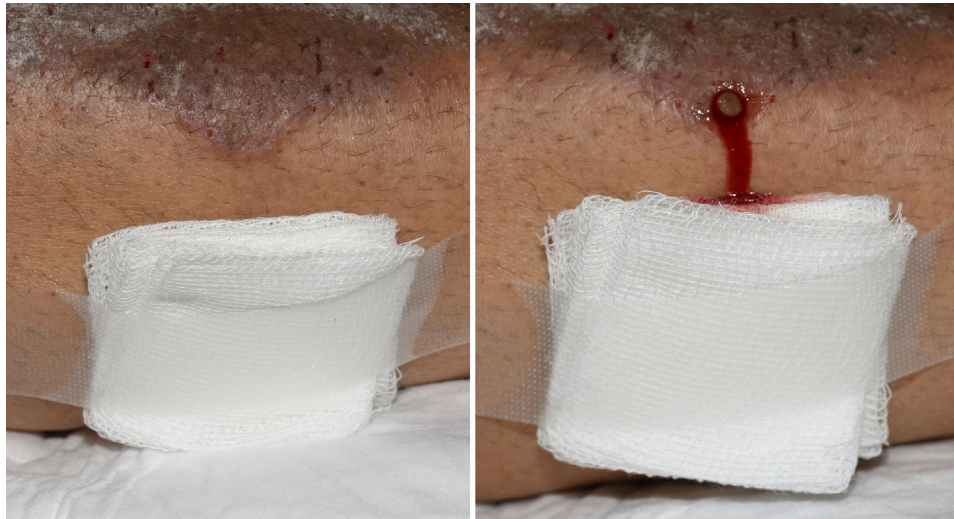


Fig 1. Gauze and tape used as a surgical assist. Multiple pieces of 2×2 gauze are used. Gauze should be placed 2-3 cm away from the biopsy site in the direction of gravity. The gauze pad is then secured in place with tape (left). This ensures that any blood from the biopsy site will be absorbed by the gauze pad while the surgeon completes the procedure (right).

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