Your physician used a **Zip™ Surgical Skin Closure Device from ZipLine® Medical, Inc.** instead of sutures (stitches) or staples to close the skin layer of your surgical incision.

**What is the Zip™ Surgical Skin Closure Device?**

The Zip™ Surgical Skin Closure Device was used to hold the edges of your incision or laceration together so that your skin can heal. The Zip™ device uses a gentle adhesive that sticks to the skin near the incision, and plastic straps across your wound hold the skin closed during recovery. Unlike staples and sutures, the Zip™ device does not puncture the skin. The Zip™ device is usually faster than sutures, which reduces the amount of time that you are under anesthesia and in the operating room. The device protects your incision while you recover to promote healing and a good cosmetic result.

**I can’t see the Zip™ device- all I can see is a wound dressing or tape.**

Your physician may have applied a wound dressing, which is usually white gauze held to the skin with white or clear tape. This wound dressing helps keep your incision clean and may absorb any exudate (oozing) from your incision. You may be sent home with this dressing in place, with instructions to remove it or have it removed after a period of time. When you remove your wound dressing, be very careful so that you do not remove the Zip™ device beneath the dressing.

**What do I do with the Zip™ device when I remove my wound dressing?**

If your physician instructs you to remove your wound dressing, be careful not to remove or tamper with the Zip™ device. The Zip™ device is holding your skin incision closed. The Zip™ device has a clear plastic film border around the outside of the device; do not remove this- it is an important part of the device.

**My doctor instructed me to apply another wound dressing after I removed this one. What do I need to know about the Zip™ device?**

If you apply another dressing, make sure that the non-adhesive dressing material (usually gauze) completely covers the Zip™ device, including the clear border, before taping the dressing to your skin. Do not let tape or adhesive that is used to hold the dressing in place touch the Zip™ device.

**I removed my wound dressing and the Zip™ device has some dried blood in the center. What should I do?**

A small amount of dried blood on or under the device may occur. This is usually normal, but if you are concerned, contact your physician.

**My Zip™ device is lifting slightly around the outside of the device. Is this ok?**

A small amount of lifting may occur during normal wear; if the edge lifts up more than ½” (the width of your small finger), contact your physician for instructions.

**Can I bathe or shower with the Zip™ device?**

You may shower with the ZipLine device, but try not to let the direct force of the shower contact the device. **Do not take a bath, soak in a hot tub, or swim while wearing the Zip™ device.** After a shower, carefully blot the device dry, taking care not to rub the device with a towel.

**When is the Zip™ device removed from my incision?**

It is typically kept on the skin for up to 14 days; however, your physician will determine when and where it should be removed.