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**Dr. J. Ben Hengy & Dr. Andrew Mendians**

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**TCA - TRICHLORACETIC ACID – Chemical Peels of the Face or Skin**

The Physicians at Lakeshore Facial perform chemical peels using TCA here in the office to treat your skin condition. The treatment can be quite effective in improving blemishes, removal or superficial skin cancers, or for the treatment of superficial wrinkles. It is important that you follow the postoperative care instructions as listed below.

**POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

It is most important that you avoid any excess sun exposure particularly for the first 6 months following the treatment. This will help to insure proper skin coloration following the procedure as excessive sun exposure can cause increased pigmentation or abnormal pigmentation of the treated area.

The patient should rest with the head elevated at all times, i.e., in a recliner or with the head on 2-3 pillows. This is to prevent any unusual postoperative swelling and bleeding from the site.

**Activity:** No limitations

**Wound Care:** Following treatment with TCA the patient will need to keep the area clean, by using a mild gentle cleanser. We ask that after you clean the area you apply a light layer of antibiotic ointment to the area twice a day for 7-10 days after the surgery. If you are allergic to antibiotic ointments please notify the physician so they can prescribe a different ointment.

Please note that the area may itch and/or burn for the first 24-48 hours. As the area heals, the itching may persist up to a week and then should clear. It is normal to have some area of redness to the treated area which will become light pink discolored by the 10th to 14th postoperative day. It is very important that you do not expose the new pink skin to any sun exposure.

We ask that you observe carefully for any signs and symptoms of infection including excessive redness, pus like drainage from the area, increasing swelling or redness around the treated area. Should you have any concerns or questions regarding the treatment please don't hesitate to contact the physician at 231.398.9536. After normal business hours the on call physician can be contacted by calling 231.843.3591.

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