

## Caring For Your Surgical Wound

### What is a Surgical Wound?

A surgical wound is a cut made during surgery. It is closed using stitches, staples or skin glue.

### How do I care for my surgical wound?

- Keep the dressing clean and dry at all times.
- Protect your wound from any injury.
- Showering is allowed after your surgery unless our nurses advise otherwise.
- Do not perform strenuous activities such as lifting, straining, exercises or sports for the first month after your surgery.
- Do not use creams or lotions unless recommended by your doctor.
- Do not touch the incision line with your finger if your wound is exposed.

### What will happen to my stitches or staples?

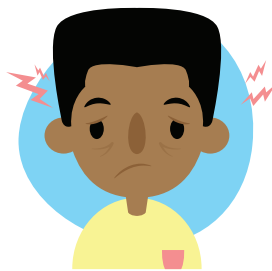
Your doctor or nurse will inform you when your stitches or staples can be removed upon your discharge. Depending on the nature of surgery, stitches and staples are usually removed between 10 to 21 days after surgery. You will be given an outpatient clinic appointment to remove your stitches or staples.

### When should I seek medical help?

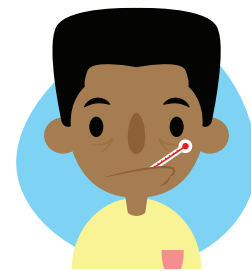
If you experience the following symptoms, visit our **Urgent Care Centre (UCC)**.



Unpleasant smell  
from the wound



Increasing or persistent  
pain at the wound site



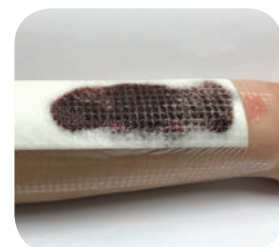
Fever above 38°C



Redness



Wound discharge



Excessive bleeding

## Alexandra Hospital

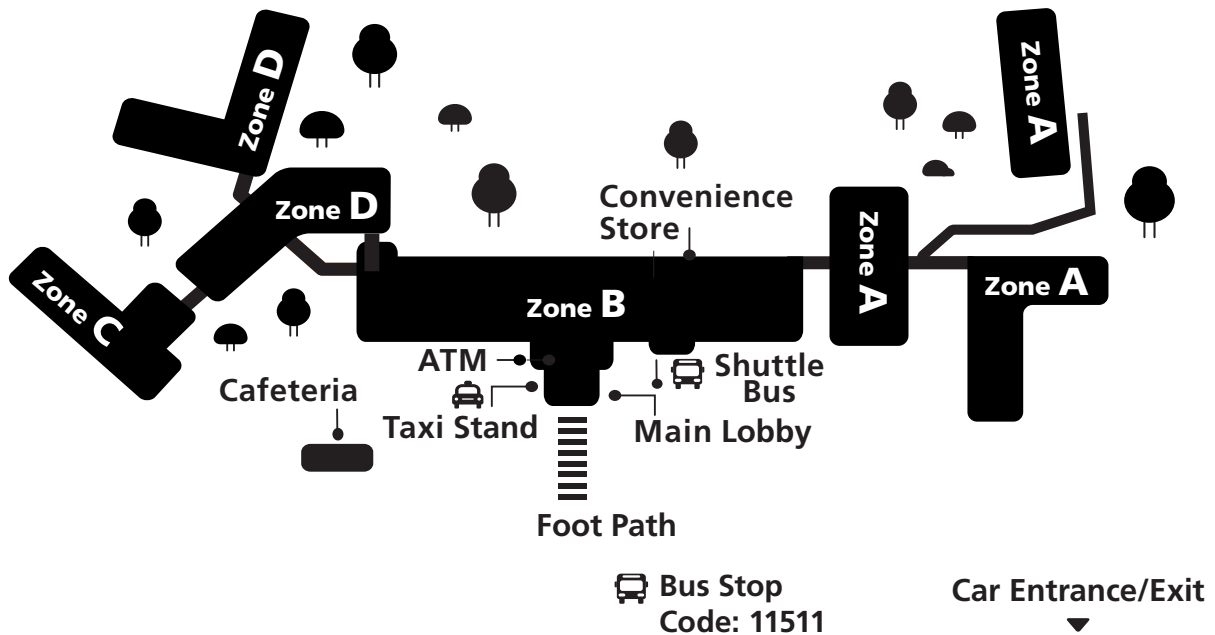
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[www.ah.com.sg](http://www.ah.com.sg)



<https://for.sg/9ce2eu>

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