



Understanding Your Electrodessication and Curettage

ED&C is a minor in-office procedure used to treat certain types of superficial skin cancers.

It involves gently scraping the abnormal tissue and then using a controlled electrical current to stop bleeding and destroy any remaining cancer cells. This method is quick, effective, and does not require stitches.

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Pros

- **No stitches required.**
- **Excellent cure rates** for the appropriate types of skin cancers.
- Typically **lower cost** compared to other surgical options.
- Very fast recovery with **minimal downtime.**



Cons

- Leaves a **round or oval scar**, which may be lighter or slightly depressed compared to surrounding skin.
- The treated area may take **4–6 weeks** to heal fully.
- Not appropriate for deeper or aggressive skin cancers.
- Slight risk of bleeding, infection, or delayed wound healing.

What to Expect

-The area is numbed with local anesthetic injections.

-A curette (a small, circular-shaped tool) is used to gently scrape the abnormal tissue.

-A brief electrical pulse is applied to the area to stop bleeding and destroy any remaining cancer cells.

-This cycle will be completed 3 times.

-A bandage is applied, and you can go home immediately afterward.

Aftercare and Restrictions

- Keep the wound moist with topical antibiotic and covered with a bandage until fully healed.
- Clean the area gently once daily with mild soap and water.
- Showering is ok, just avoid scrubbing the area directly.
- Do not pick at the scab; this can worsen scarring.
- Mild redness, drainage, and crusting are normal during healing.
- Contact your provider if you notice spreading redness, increasing pain, pus, or fever.

***Disclaimer: This summary is intended for general information only. It does not include every detail about the procedure. All specific instructions, risks, and expectations will be discussed fully with you in the office at the time of your visit.