

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### What is a wedge resection?

This is a procedure to remove part or all of a toenail that has grown into the skin.

If you have had several ingrown nails in the same toe, your doctor may use a chemical or electro-cautery (burning with an electric current) to prevent the nail from becoming ingrown again.

### What happens after the procedure?

- Your doctor may prescribe oral antibiotics if you have an infection
- Elevate your foot for long periods of time for 24 hours
- Ask your doctor when you will be able to do normal activities
- Keep the bandage on your toe for 1 or 2 days
- Soaking your toe in warm water may make it easier to remove the bandage
- It will take 6 to 9 months for your nail to grow back

### What if I have pain?

- As soon as the numbness begins to wear off, you may feel tingling or feel some pain
- You may take over-the-counter medicine such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) and ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) unless your doctor or nurse tells you not to
- Be sure to see your doctor for a follow-up
- After the nail grows back, you can keep from getting another ingrown nail by cutting your nail straight across the top

## **When should I call my doctor?**

### **If you have:**

- Increased redness, swelling, or drainage from the toenail
- A fever more than 38° C or 100.4°F
- Bleeding after the procedure that does not stop
- Pain and the pain medicine does not work
- Your toe is becoming dark or swollen.

### **Questions or Concerns:**

Health Link BC: 811

(604) 215-2400

Hearing Impaired: 1 866 889-4700

Or, contact your physician

**In an Emergency:** Call 911 or go to the hospital emergency room