

Wound Care for draining or unhealed wounds

General Procedure:

1. Get a trash bag or plastic bag and have it easily accessible.
2. Gather all supplies needed for changing the dressing.
3. Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and running warm water for at least 15 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
4. Put on clean gloves just before handling skin near the wound.
5. While changing the bandage, be sure not to touch any other persons, body parts, or objects not-related to changing the bandage.
6. Drop all old bandages and supplies directly into the designated trash bag.
7. Remove gloves and drop them into the trash bag.
8. Wash your hands again.
9. Put on a fresh pair of gloves and dress the wound as directed by your physician.
10. Again dispose of any used supplies and your gloves in the designated trash.
11. Seal the trash bag and place in the regular trash bin.
12. Wash your hands once again and disinfect any surfaces that may have come in contact with the wound, wound drainage, or your gloved hands during the procedure.

How often:

1. Follow your doctor's recommendations.
2. Usually at least twice a day.
3. Change the dressing more often if you see pus or drainage on the bandage or the bandage becomes wet.

Precautions:

1. Keep the wound covered at all times.
2. Do not touch other persons or participate in contact activities until the wound has healed completely.
3. Do not share personal items (e.g. towels, razors, sheets, exercise equipment, toys, etc.)
4. Wash your hands, wash your hands, wash your hands.



Public Health

Infectious Disease Epidemiology

Adapted from Texas Department of State Health Services,
Louisiana Office of Public Health, and the CDC