

Wound Check / Post-Op Dressing Change

Policy

The Community Paramedic will respond to a residence on order from the medical provider requesting community paramedic care and follow guidelines outlined by the medical provider's orders for the purpose of wound care and post-operative dressing changes.

Purpose:



To assist the medical provider in attending to soft tissue injuries for the purpose of restoration of function through repair of injured tissue while minimizing risk of infection and cosmetic deformity.

This will be accomplished through visual inspection, wound cleaning and dressing/bandage change, and patient education.

Review patient health history and medical provider's orders prior to appointment	
Follow Medical Provider's orders	
1	Reconcile medications
2	Complete History and Physical assessment
3	Complete vital signs

1. Obtain history of wound, medical illnesses (certain illnesses may delay wound healing and increase risk of Infection), current vaccinations (Tdap) and medical provider's orders.
2. Visually inspect dressings and wound.
 - * Examine dressings for excess drainage.
 - * Examine wounds for infection and delayed healing including increasing inflammation, purulent drainage, foul odor, persistent pain, and fever.
 - * If needed, document wound with digital camera and send to medical provider with updated records.
3. If signs of infection, contact medical provider immediately for follow up.
4. If no signs of infection clean and dress wound per medical provider's orders, and educate patient on signs and symptoms of infection and risk management.
5. Make sure patient is up to date on vaccinations (Tetanus) and if needed offer vaccine on sight or connect to public health.

1	Complete all documentation, to include scanning and attaching any associated paperwork
2	Schedule next appointment. If this is graduation appointment, complete survey.

	Communicate all updated information to the medical provider	
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