

X Healthcare: How to Perform a Sterile Wound Dressing Change - Policy #4

This document outlines the procedure for performing a sterile wound dressing change according to X Healthcare policy. Please ensure you adhere to this procedure at all times to maintain patient safety and prevent infection.

1. Preparation

Gather the following supplies:

- Sterile gloves
- Antiseptic solution
- Sterile dressing materials (gauze, bandages)
- Tape or securing wraps
- Waste disposal bag
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), such as a mask and eye protection if needed.

2. Hand Hygiene

Perform thorough hand hygiene. This includes washing your hands with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after the procedure.

3. Patient Preparation

Explain the procedure to the patient and ensure their comfort. Position the patient to allow easy access to the wound.

4. Removing the Old Dressing

Put on clean gloves. Carefully remove the old dressing and discard it into the waste disposal bag. If the dressing is stuck, moisten it with sterile saline before removal. Observe the wound and note any changes or abnormalities.

5. Wound Cleaning

Put on sterile gloves. Clean the wound with the antiseptic solution as directed by the physician's orders or healthcare facility policy. Use a sterile technique.

6. Applying the New Dressing

Apply the new sterile dressing to the wound, ensuring it covers the entire area. Secure the dressing with tape or wraps.

7. Disposal and Documentation

Dispose of all used materials in the waste disposal bag. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene again. Document the procedure, including the date, time, dressing type, wound appearance, and any patient observations.

8. Considerations

- Always follow standard precautions to prevent infection.
- If there are signs of infection (redness, swelling, pus), notify a physician or supervisor immediately.
- Maintain patient privacy and comfort throughout the procedure.

This policy aims to standardize wound care procedures and ensure patient safety at X Healthcare.