

Wound Dressing Change Observation Tool

MDH ICAR INFECTION PREVENTION AUDIT TOOLS

This audit tool can be used to determine compliance of wound dressing change practices for any staff member.

Observer: _____

Date: _____

Location (room/unit/etc.): _____

| Role | All supplies gathered before dressing change ⁱ | HH performed before dressing change | Clean gloves donned before dressing change ⁱⁱ | Multi-dose wound care meds used appropriately ⁱⁱⁱ | Dressing change performed in manner to prevent cross-contamination ^{iv} | Gloves removed after dressing change completed | HH performed after dressing change completed | Reusable equipment cleaned and/or disinfected appropriately ^v | Clean, unused supplies discarded or dedicated to one resident | Wound care performed/assessed regularly ^{vi} | Wound care supply cart is clean ^{vii} |
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NA: Not assessed

ROLE: RN—registered nurse; REHAB—rehabilitation including physical occupational, music, and speech therapy; PROVIDER—medical doctor (MD), Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), nurse practitioner (NP), physician assistant (PA), dentist (DDS); CONTRACTOR—contracted wound care nurse

ⁱ Dedicated wound dressing change supplies and equipment should be gathered and accessible on a clean surface at resident's bedside before starting procedure.

ⁱⁱ Additional PPE (e.g., facemask/face shield, gown) should be worn to prevent body fluids exposure per facility policy.

ⁱⁱⁱ Multi-dose wound care medications (e.g., ointments, creams) should be dedicated to a single resident whenever possible or a small amount of medication should be aliquoted into clean container for single-resident use; Meds should be stored properly in centralized location and never enter a resident treatment area.

^{iv} Gloves should be changed and HH performed when moving from dirty to clean wound care activities (e.g., after removal of soiled dressings, before handling clean supplies); Debridement or irrigation should be performed in a way to minimize cross-contamination of surrounding surfaces from aerosolized irrigation solution; All soiled dressing supplies should be discarded.

^v In addition to reusable medical equipment, any surface in the resident's immediate care area contaminated during a dressing change should be cleaned and disinfected; Any visible blood or body fluid should be removed first with a wet, soapy cloth then disinfected with an EPA-registered disinfectant per manufacturer instructions and facility policy; Surfaces/equipment should be visibly saturated with solution and allowed to dry for proper disinfection before reuse.

^{vi} Wound care documentation should include wound characteristics (e.g., size, stage), dressing assessment (e.g., clean, dry), and date and frequency of dressing changes; Wound care is documented in medical records per facility policy.

^{vii} Wound care supply cart should never enter the resident's immediate care area nor be accessed while wearing gloves or without performing HH first. These are important to preventing cross-contamination of clean supplies and reiterates the importance of collecting all supplies prior to beginning wound care.