

SUBJECT: ENZYMATIC DEBRIDING AGENTS	REFERENCE #8133
DEPARTMENT: REHABILITATION SERVICES	PAGE: 1 OF: 2
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**PURPOSE:**

Chemical debridement of necrotic tissue and separation of non-viable tissue from viable tissue

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

- Patients with local or systemic hypersensitivity to collagenase
- Clean granulation bed
- Ischemic wounds unless adequate vascular status has been determined

**POLICY:**

Use of enzymatic debriding agents for wound debridement must be ordered by a physician.

**PROCEDURE:**

- Obtain a physician's order.
- Identify the patient using two (2) patient identifiers.
- Perform hand hygiene. Don gloves.
- Clean the wound.
- Apply agent daily with dressing changes:
  - Crosshatching the thick eschar with a blade will allow the agent to have more surface contact with the eschar.
  - Place the agent directly on the lesion. Remove all excess agent.
- If there is infection present, use an antibiotic, as ordered, in the wound prior to using the agent.
- Apply a clean, moist dressing on the wound to maintain a favorable environment for the chemical to work.

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**REFERENCE:**

O'Sullivan, Susan B., Siegelman, Raymond P., *National Physical Therapy Examination Review and Study Guide*, International Educational Resources, 2010, p.219