

SUBJECT: WOUND CARE - DEBRIDEMENT	REFERENCE #8132
DEPARTMENT: REHABILITATION SERVICES	PAGE: 1 OF: 2
APPROVED BY:	EFFECTIVE:
	REVISED:

POLICY:

- Debridement is normally performed following cleansing of an open wound, such as whirlpool, pulsatile lavage or irrigation.
- If chemical, enzymatic, autolytic or biosurgery debridement is necessary, a referral for treatment and a prescription for the agent from a referring practitioner are required.

PROCEDURE:

- Gather equipment and supplies:
 - Debridement kits
 - Sterile drapes
 - Sterile gloves
 - Sterile gauze
- Identify the patient using two (2) patient identifiers.
- Explain the procedure to the patient.
- Perform hand hygiene; put on gloves.
- Utilizing clean technique, cleanse the open wound or lesion with the preferred cleansing method, i.e., whirlpool, pulsatile lavage, irrigation.
- Remove gloves and don sterile gloves after cleaning the wound.
- Drape and prepare the area surrounding the lesion or wound to be debrided.
- Open dressing and debridement set.

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- If sharp debridement is necessary, use forceps and sharp scissors from the sterile debridement kit.
- Remove only necrotic tissue from the wound that is consistent with the goals and dispose of tissue in biohazard red bag.
- Lift necrotic tissue with forceps and trim lifted tissue as close to viable tissue as possible.
- After completion of debridement, prepare the wound for dressing.
- Dress the wound per physician's orders.
- Remove gloves; perform hand hygiene.

REFERENCES:

- O'Sullivan, Susan B., Schmitz, Thomas J., *Physical Rehabilitation*, F.A. Davis Company; Fifth Edition, 2007, p.665-71
- Irion, G., PhD, PT, CWS, *Comprehensive Wound Management*, Slack Incorporated, Second Edition, 2010