

Introduction to Caring for a Wound with a Drain Check-Off

Practice caring for a wound with a drain on the model using the following steps:

1.	Follow the appropriate preparation steps.
2.	Remove the tape from the client's skin by pulling it toward the incision.
3.	Don clean gloves.
4.	Remove the soiled dressing.
5.	Discard the gloves and dressings into a plastic bag.
6.	Observe the wound closely for signs of an infection or healing. Don sterile gloves.
7.	If the pin on the Penrose drain is crusted, replace it with a sterile pin. Be careful not to dislodge the drain or suction tubing.
8.	Using cotton applicators or gauze pads, cleanse the drain site with cleansing solution then saline.
9.	Start cleansing at the drain site, moving in a circular motion toward the periphery, unless using chlorhexidine swab; with that use back and forth motion. Clean the drain site, using a circular motion from the inside to the periphery of the wound. Place a pre-cut sterile 4 x 4 gauze dressing around the drain site to prevent skin excoriation. Hold the drain erect while cleaning around it.
10.	Dry the surrounding skin with a gauze swab.
11.	Discard the applicators in a plastic bag.
12.	Advance the drain if ordered. Using a sterile forceps, pull the drain out of the wound the ordered number of centimeters. Reposition the safety pin so that it is at the level of the skin. Cut off the excess tubing with sterile scissors. Leave at least 5 cm of tubing on the outside.
13.	Place several 4 x 4 dressings around the drain.
14.	Apply a gauze pad with a precut slit under the drain site.
15.	Apply dry sterile gauze pads over the drain.
16.	Apply ABD pads over sterile gauze.
17.	Remove gloves and dispose of them in a refuse bag.
18.	Tape the dressing or retire the Montgomery straps. (tie tapes)
19.	Remove the bag with the soiled dressing from the room.
20.	Perform hand hygiene.
21.	Position the client for comfort.
22.	Lower the bed and raise the side rail.