



## Wound Care Basics

### Dry Gauze

- Comes in several sizes, will most often hear them referred to by their size (2x2s or 4x4s).
- Packed individually or in bulk



### Kerlix

- Porous absorbent gauze that comes in a wrap
- Good for circumferential wrapping
- Can also be used for packing large wounds



### ABD Pads

- “Abdominal Dressing Pad”
- Absorbent rectangular pad
- Good for covering midline or abdominal incisions w/serosanguinous drainage
- Will usually overly a gauze dressing for extra absorption



### Ribbon Packing

- Thin role of non-absorbent dressing that can be used to pack a small wound cavity (superficial abscess)
- Leave a wick that extends out of the abscess to allow drainage.



### Kling

- Highly absorbent dressing
- Comes in a roll
- Poor tensile strength (tears easily)
- Good for circumferential wraps that will have a lot of drainage (neck, limbs)





### Mepilex / Ulcer Dressing / Foam Dressing

- Bandage with built in foam support
- Good for covering open dry wounds or decubitus ulcers
- Nurses will often put these on patients' sacrums prophylactically



### Aquacel

- “Synthetic Fiber Dressings w/Silver”
- Thicker wool-like dressing that has antimicrobial properties
- Good for packing in deeper wounds, ulcers or burns.
- Can be cut into strips for packing cavities.



### Antibiotic coated line dressing

- Sterile dressing with antibiotic gel that covers central or arterial catheter insertion sites
- Usually placed at time of catheter insertion and does not get removed



### Wound Vac

- Negative Pressure Dressing
- Sponge dressing that packs the inside of a wound and is covered with a clear dressing to make a seal
- Tubing from the dressing is attached to a vacuum device that creates negative pressure and removes drainage
- Should not be used for infected wounds with purulent drainage.





### Xeroform

- Vaseline damp gauze dressing
- Lubricates and moistens dry superficial wounds
- Good for abrasions and superficial ulcers



### Silk Tape

- Attaches well to skin, has good durability
- Can provide some pressure/occlusiveness
- Good for simple dressings
- Can be painful to remove



### Medipore

- Similar function to silk tape but has less tensile strength
- Great for simple dressings or incision dressings
- Has perforations allowing it to be segmented
- Skin friendly, not painful to remove



### Porous paper tissue

- Weaker tape with poor durability
- Great for small transient dressings, eg puncture sites from blood draws
- Very skin friendly





## Transparent Tape

- Clear tape with good adhesive strength
- Great for securing IV lines to skin, etc



## Tegaderm

- Clear sterile dressing with good skin adherence
- Good for occlusive dressings
- Multipurpose. Can cover IV removal sites, new IVs, can provide occlusive seal
- Not porous. Skin friendly

