1. Preparation of supplies for dressing change

* Gauze; The Doctor will order the appropriate one.
* Cotton swabs
* Adhesive tape
* Betadine solution
* Normal saline solution

All supplies may be purchased at the store on the fifth floor of the hospital.

2. Procedure for dressing change

Wash hands before and after doing each dressing change.

Remove the old dressing.

**DRESSING CHANGE FOR NORMAL WOUND WITHOUT DRAIN IN PLACE**

A. Use cotton swab and soak swab with betadine solution. Clean the affected area from the center outwards in a circular pattern. When the betadine solution is dry, about 30 seconds, use another cotton swab soaked in the normal saline solution and repeat the procedure, cleaning from the center outwards as diagram indicates.

B. Pick up two outer corners of the sterile gauze with your fingers. Do not touch gauze anywhere else to avoid contamination that may cause wound infection.

C. Apply adhesive tape around all edges of gauze to keep wound clean and dry.

**DRESSING CHANGE FOR WOUND WITH DRAINAGE TUBE IN PLACE**

A. Hold the drainage tube in one hand and use the other to care for the wound as described in the procedure at left; care of the NORMAL WOUND.

b. Use the split gauze as indicated in the diagram. Place one gauze on the wound around the drainage tube and another one in the opposite direction.
3. Important information while caring for wound.

- Clean only in circular pattern; do not use back and forth motion.
- When doing the dressing change look for any redness, purulent discharge and/or foul odor.
- Take a sponge bath if the wound has sutures in place or if the dressing changes still need to be done.
- Change the dressing if it becomes wet, dirty or has any drainage. It is very important to keep the dressing clean and dry.

- If you have any of the following signs of wound infection you need to return to the hospital.
  - Redness, swelling, pain, area is hot to touch
  - Wound has purulent drainage, foul odor
  - Sudden increase in discharge
  - Body temperature over 38 degrees C. or a fever that continues more than 24 hours

- Use adhesive tape on all edges of the gauze to keep wound clean and dry. Use another piece of tape around the drainage tube and then applied to skin, holding tube securely in place and allowing for mobility of tube.