



COHESIVE HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT & CONSULTING

Mangum Regional Medical Center

TITLE		POLICY	
Wound Debridement		810	
MANUAL	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVIEW DATE	
Rehabilitation			
DEPARTMENT	REFERENCE		
Rehabilitation Services	APTA House of Delegates: “Position on Direct Interventions Exclusively Performed by the physical therapist.”		

SCOPE: All licensed physical therapy staff (PT/PTA) providing wound care at Mangum Regional Medical Center.

PURPOSE: To establish policy for wound debridement.

DEFINITION: Wound debridement is the removal of devitalized tissue either selectively or non-selectively to help a wound heal.

POLICY: Mechanical debridement of necrotic tissue will be performed on all wounds of patients referred to therapy for Whirlpool or wound care unless physician's order specifies otherwise.
 Therapist or therapist assistant shall perform all mechanical/serial instrumental debridement.
 The therapist shall perform all selective sharp debridement as per discipline's scope of practice/care and permitted by State Practice Act, Rules and Regulations. Physician's order received for wound care, debridement, or evaluate and treat for wound care as appropriate.
 Patient consent for wound debridement will be obtained prior to wound debridement.

PROCEDURE:

1. The therapist will evaluate patient prior to initiation of debridement and determine necessity to debride and debridement method.
 - a. Selective sharp debridement involves the use of sharp instruments to remove specific areas of necrotic tissue from a wound, cutting along a line of demarcation separating viable and necrotic tissue and does not require prior softening of tissue.
 - b. Serial instrumental debridement is performed over several patient interactions as necrotic tissue loosens from the wound. Debridement is performed with instruments such as forceps and, on occasion, scissors to remove loosely adherent

necrotic tissue; non-specific types of debridement such as pulsatile lavage, irrigation and Whirlpool are frequently applied in advance.

2. Standard and Transmission Based precautions are followed at all times.
3. Wound debridement will be performed at least every other treatment or as appropriate depending on status of wound and debridement method.
4. Hands are washed according to facility policy.
5. Sterile debridement tools are opened and placed on sterile field.
6. Sterile debridement tools are handled with clean gloves only.
7. New sterile debridement tools are used with each wound unless wounds are infection free per culture.
8. Dressing is applied to wound per Rehabilitation Services policy “dressing preparation and application.”
9. Single use debridement tools are disposed of in the designated sharps container per facility procedure.
10. Sterilized tools (non-sharps) will be returned to packaged and taken to facility approved location for sterilization of equipment.

REFERENCES:

OSHA Guideline Exposure Category I
PPE: gloves and mask with fluid shield or goggles
Optional: gown if soiling likely

REVISIONS/UPDATES

Date	Brief Description of Revision/Change