

When should I contact my health care provider?

If the wound develops signs of infection:

- ✓ fever
- ✓ increased pain
- ✓ swelling of tissue around the wound
- ✓ cloudy or thick yellow drainage
- ✓ redness outside the wound
- ✓ bleeding
- ✓ unusual odour
- ✓ increased drainage

Or if you notice any of the “Time to Change” signs listed in this guide, or you have any concerns about your wound or dressing.

Notes:



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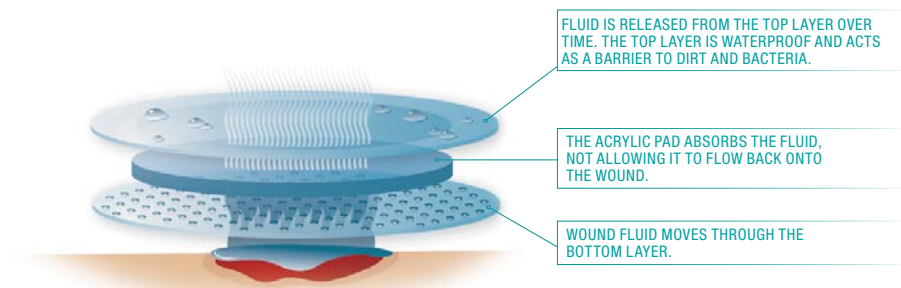
Your health care provider has chosen to manage your wound with a **3M™ Tegaderm™ Absorbent Clear Acrylic Dressing**. This dressing will provide a protective covering for your wound and allow it to heal.

This guide has been designed to familiarize you with the normal performance of this dressing, and help you recognize when it may need to be changed.



How does the dressing work?

It takes the fluid away from the wound and holds it in a special absorptive layer in the middle of the dressing. Over time, some of this fluid will be released from the top of the dressing. The fluid will not be noticeable to the touch. The dressing also acts as a protective cover for your wound, allowing it to heal.



What might I see when I am wearing the dressing?



Wound fluid will be absorbed into the pad. It is not sitting on your skin.

The dressing may bubble up at times and then go flat again. This is normal. If the bubble does not go down in a day it may be time to change the dressing.

The dressing may have a crackled appearance like a broken mirror. This will not affect healing. Leave the dressing in place.

You may shower with this dressing or take a short bath if the dressing is still in place and the edges have not lifted. Do not soak in the tub while wearing this dressing.

When is it time to change the dressing?

This dressing has been designed to be left in place for extended periods of time, and this may be longer than you have experienced with other dressings. You should change the dressing if:

- ✓ The dressing is leaking
- ✓ The edges of the dressing have rolled up to the acrylic pad
- ✓ The wound fluid is under the clear adhesive border (outside the pad area)
- ✓ The wound has healed
- ✓ Your health care provider feels that it is time to remove the dressing

Below are a few tips to help you determine if the dressing should be changed or not:

Time to change!



The edges have rolled past the pad. Do not try to tape it down.

Please leave on!



Wound fluid can be seen within the acrylic pad and the edges remain sealed to the skin.



Wound fluid has expanded beyond the acrylic pad leaking into the border of the dressing.



The acrylic pad in the centre of the dressing may appear "crackled." This is normal.