



Wound Management: A Comprehensive Guide for Nurses

Disciplines:	Nursing Advanced Practice Nursing
Hours:	30 Contact Hours
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Wound management and the promotion of healing are complicated and challenging to those suffering with such maladies. Whether wounds are acute or chronic, nurses are the clinicians most intimately involved with the assessment, care, and ongoing evaluation of wounds. Changes in care based on evidence from research, regulatory changes requiring quality outcomes to be measured, and a reimbursement culture that demands assessment, documentation, and progress for payment all affect nursing practice with the central goal of providing the best care for each patient. Clinicians must use evidence-based practices to promote healing and carry the responsibility to stay current regarding research and updated treatment modalities.

The cornerstone for success in wound healing and improving outcomes is possessing a fundamental knowledge of wound etiology and cofactors contributing to wound formation, understanding wound healing physiology, using critical assessment skills, managing barriers to healing, and implementing accepted evidence-based standards of care. This course provides nurses involved in the management of wounds with a comprehensive overview of wound care, including tangible knowledge they can apply to the various aspects of wound assessment and interventions that promote healing and comfort based on the goals of therapy.

Course Objectives

- Describe the anatomy and physiology of skin, including its structure and function and implications of lifespan changes.
- Describe the types of wounds, significance of wound etiology, methods of wound closure, and process of wound healing.
- Analyze factors affecting wound healing, the importance of the periwound area, and the nursing interventions required to manage acute and chronic wounds.
- Identify contributing factors of pressure injury formation, importance of risk assessments, and the best approaches to pressure injury care.
- Assess the lower extremity ulcer for findings associated with arterial and venous disease.
- Identify key concepts in the assessment and management of lymphedema and neuropathic ulcers.
- Describe the types and classifications of heat- and cold-related thermal injuries and the specific approaches to wound management for each.
- Assess malignant wounds and the interventions for the unique palliative care needs of the patient.
- Discuss adjunctive therapies used in wound management, pain management, and how these therapies enhance wound healing.
- Describe the professional practice of wound management, including education, certification, evidence-based practice, reimbursement of care, documentation requirements, and legal concerns for nurses.