



Wound Discharge information (Total Hip and Knee Replacement)

Wound care

We use two main types of dressings on hip and knee wounds. The type of dressing used is determined by the team looking after you.

The more common is- Aquacel Surgical- a brown coloured dressing with padding inside.

The less frequently used- Avelle dressing- a negative pressure dressing which is white and has a small pump attached to it.

These dressings are designed to be left in place until 7 days post-surgery and then until your clips (if you have them) are due to be removed. If the dressing becomes very soiled before this time it may be necessary to arrange for the practice nurse to see you to change it for you.

You will be asked to make an appointment with the practice nurse to have the wound checked at approximately day 7 post surgery (this may vary depending on how the wound is healing and the day of the week you are discharged), and at that time you can make arrangements for either a final check, if you have no clips to remove, or removal of clips with the nurse between day 10-12 post surgery.

Not all hip wounds are closed with clips, some are closed with a dissolvable stitches and glue and so at day 10, as long as the wound is dry, the dressing can be removed and the wound left uncovered.

Please do not touch your wound or pick scabs on the wound as this can increase the risk of infection. If you are at all worried about your wound post discharge please call either

- Alverstone Ward 534712/ 534711
- Clare-Louise Sandell 534064 email: clare-louise.sandell@nhs.net for advice.
- Mr Gardiner's secretary 534856
- Mr Osborne/ Mr Fareed's Secretary 534778
- Mr Millington's secretary 534855

We do not want you to receive oral antibiotics to treat a potential wound infection without being reviewed here at St Mary's first.

We are here to support your recovery in any way we can, so if you have a query please do not hesitate to contact me or the team. We also welcome feedback, so if there is information you would like to see on this sheet please don't hesitate to let me know.

Clare-Louise Sandell
Orthopaedic Nurse Specialist