

SURGICAL DEBRIDEMENT

Wound Healing Varies Based on Multiple Factors

Debridement Improves Wound Appearance and Promotes Wound Healing

Debridement refers to the removal of necrotic tissue. Necrotic tissue hinders the body's ability to heal; therefore debridement may be vital to the body's recovery.

There are four types of debridement methods. They are surgical, chemical, mechanical, and autolytic. They may be used separately or in combination. Surgical debridement is the preferred method for large or infected wounds.

Please use this guide as a resource for the knowledge and understanding of surgical debridement, when it is necessary, the procedure, and post-procedure care.

01 | What is Surgical Debridement?

Surgical debridement involves the use of surgical tools such as scalpels, forceps, and scissors. Additionally, there may be a use of general or local anesthesia. Surgeons perform this procedure in a sterile operating room. In contrast to other types of debridement, this operation occurs in one session.

Surgical debridement allows full visibility of the wound site. This helps doctors avoid removing healthy tissues during the process.

02 | When is Surgical Debridement Necessary?

Surgical debridement is not appropriate for all patients. Since it is the most aggressive form of debridement, its typical application is for large or infected wounds. When used early, surgical debridement can prevent amputation or loss of life due to sepsis.

03 | The Procedure

To determine the best method of debridement, your physician may perform a physical exam and take measurements of the wound.

After electing the surgical debridement method, preparation for the operation includes cleaning and disinfecting the skin around the wound. Your doctor will then cut away the necrotic tissue. There may be a need for a transplanted skin graft.

04 | Post-Procedure Care

The wound may take multiple weeks before it is fully healed. To ensure a timely recovery, make sure to:

- Keep the wound clean and dry
- Limit your movements
- Take medication as directed
- Increase liquid intake
- Eat varieties of healthy foods

You may need to return to your physician if you are experiencing:

- Signs of infection
- Redness, swelling or draining pus
- Severe pain
- Excessive bleeding

For additional resources on wound healing and the debridement of wounds please visit:

www.advancetissue.com

Did You Know?
Wounds heal better when debrided often

References

<https://uvahealth.com/services/orthopedics/ortho-conditions/debridement-of-a-wound-infection-or-burn>

<https://woundeducators.com/wound-debridement-techniques-5-surgical-debridement/>