

## #72 - IRRIGATING WOUNDS

(Partner Check-Off)

I acknowledge I have physically practiced and successfully learned the following skill(s):

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

	P1	P2	P3	Comments
1. Checked to see what kind of solution the provider had specified in the order.				
2. Gathered the necessary equipment and supplies.				
3. Performed hand hygiene, and provided for the patient's privacy.				
4. Introduced self to the patient and family.				
5. Identified the patient using two identifiers. Compared the identifiers with the information on the patient's identification bracelet.				
6. Checked prior nursing notes for previous wound assessments.				
7. Formed a cuff on a waterproof biohazard bag, and placed it near the bed.				
8. Applied clean gloves. Adjusted the patient's gown and bedding to expose the wound only. Removed the dressing and disposed of properly. Wore a gown and goggles.				
9. Assessed the wound.				
10. Placed a container of irrigant/cleansing solution in a basin of hot water to warm the solution to body temperature.				
11. Positioned the patient to permit gravitational flow of the irrigation solution into the collection receptacle.				
12. Protected the bedding by slipping a waterproof pad or an extra towel under the patient.				
13. Opened the irrigation kit and applied sterile gloves.				
14. Irrigated a wound with a wide opening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Filled a syringe with the prescribed irrigation solution.</li> <li>b. Attached a sterile 19-gauge angiocatheter or sterile 19-gauge needle to the syringe.</li> <li>c. Set the collection basin on the pad.</li> <li>d. Held the syringe tip 2.5 cm above the upper end of the wound.</li> <li>e. Used steady, continuous pressure, flushed the wound. Refilled the syringe, and continued flushing until the solution that drained into the collection basin was clear.</li> </ul>				
15. Irrigated a deep wound with a very small opening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Used an already prepared catheter syringe or attached a soft catheter to a filled irrigation syringe.</li> <li>b. Gently inserted the catheter tip into the wound opening to a depth of 1 cm.</li> <li>c. Flushed the wound, used slow, continuous pressure.</li> </ul>				

- d. Moved the syringe around being sure to irrigate all parts of the wound.
- e. Refilled the syringe if necessary. Continued to irrigate until the solution from the wound was clear.

16. Irrigated a wound with a handheld shower:

- a. Performed hand hygiene, and applied clean gloves. With the patient seated comfortably in a shower chair, adjusted the shower spray to a gentle flow of warm water.
- b. Held the shower head 30 cm from the wound, and flushed the wound for 5 to 10 minutes.
- c. Dried the patient after his or her shower, and helped the patient dress and return to bed.

17. When indicated, obtained wound cultures after cleansing the wound.

18. Dried the wound edges with gauze and applied appropriate dressing, labeled it with the time and date, and initialed it.

19. Removed personal protective equipment.

20. Applied clean gloves. Disposed of all used equipment and soiled supplies. Left the patient's room tidy.

21. Removed gloves, and performed hand hygiene.

22. Helped the patient to a comfortable position, and placed toiletries and personal items within reach.

23. Placed the call light within easy reach, and made sure the patient knew how to use it to summon assistance.

24. Raised the appropriate number of side rails and lowered the bed to its lowest position.

25. Inspected the dressing periodically according to agency policy.

26. Documented and reported the patient's response and expected or unexpected outcomes, characteristics of the wound, any drainage, and cultures obtained according to agency policy.

**S** = Satisfactory    **U** = Unsatisfactory    **NP** = Not Performed    **\***=Must Perform to Pass

*By signing below I acknowledge that I witnessed the skill performed and the student successfully passed the skill.*

Practice 1: Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Practice 2: Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

FINAL Student Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_