

CHAPTER 29 PROCEDURE CHECKLISTS

PROCEDURE 29-1

Assisting the Nurse With a Dressing Change

Getting Ready

1. Complete the "Getting Ready" steps.

S	U	COMMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Procedure

2. Clean the over-bed table and cover it with paper towels or the bed protector. Place the dressing supplies on the over-bed table. Fold the top edges of the plastic bag down to make a cuff. Place the cuffed bag on the over-bed table.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
3. Make sure that the bed is positioned at a comfortable working height (to promote good body mechanics) and that the wheels are locked. If the side rails are in use, lower the side rail on the working side of the bed. The side rail on the opposite side of the bed should remain up.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
4. Help the person to a comfortable position that allows access to the wound.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
5. Fanfold the top linens to the foot of the bed. Adjust the person's hospital gown or pajamas as necessary to expose the wound.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
6. Put on the mask, gown, or both, if necessary. Perform hand hygiene and put on the gloves.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
7. The nurse will remove the old dressing. The nurse may ask you to take the old dressing and place it in the cuffed plastic bag. Be careful to keep the soiled side of the dressing out of the person's sight. Do not let the dressing touch the outside of the plastic bag.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
8. Remove your gloves, dispose of them in a facility-approved waste container, and perform hand hygiene.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
9. Wait while the nurse inspects the wound and measures it, if necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
10. Put on a clean pair of gloves.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
11. Assist as the nurse applies a new dressing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
a. Open the wrapper containing the dressing and hold it open so that the nurse can remove the dressing. Do not touch the dressing. Dispose of the wrapper in a facility-approved waste container.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
b. If the dressing will be secured with tape, cut four pieces of tape for securing the dressing. For a 4 × 4 dressing, each piece of tape should measure 8 inches long. Hang the tape from the edge of the over-bed table.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

- c. If the nurse asks you to, use the tape strips to secure the dressing by placing one piece of tape along each side of the dressing. Center each piece of tape equally over the dressing and the person's skin. ☐ ☐ _____
12. Remove your gloves (and gown and mask, if using) and dispose of them in a facility-approved waste container. Perform hand hygiene. ☐ ☐ _____
13. Re-cover the wound with the hospital gown or pajamas. Help the person back into a comfortable position, straighten the bottom linens, and draw the top linens over the person. ☐ ☐ _____
14. Make sure that the bed is lowered to its lowest position and that the wheels are locked. If the side rails are in use, return the side rail to the raised position on the working side of the bed. ☐ ☐ _____
15. Dispose of disposable items in a facility-approved waste container. Clean equipment and return it to the storage area. ☐ ☐ _____

Finishing Up

16. Complete the "Finishing Up" steps. ☐ ☐ _____