



Wound Care Terminology

Anastomoses	Surgical joining of two blood vessels or body tube/channel
Anticoagulation Therapy	Oral or injectable therapy used to thin blood, necessary in certain medical conditions
Debridement	Surgical removal of necrotic (dead tissue) material from a wound in order to prevent infection and promote healing
Edema	An abnormal excess accumulation of serous fluid in connective tissue or in serous cavity
Eschar	(es'kar) scab formed when a wound or skin is sealed by the heat of cautery or burning
Exudate	The material composed of serum, fibrin, and white blood cells that escapes from blood vessels into a superficial lesion or area of inflammation
Fascia	Fibrous connective tissue separating or binding muscles and organs
Fistula	An abnormal passage that leads from an abscess (or hollow organ, part of the body surface, or from a hollow organ to part of the body) that may be surgically created to permit passage of fluids or secretions
Granulation	New tissues and capillaries that form on the surfaces of a wound during healing
Hemostasis	Stabilization process which causes bleeding to lessen or stop
Necrotic Tissue	Premature death of cells caused by infection, toxins or trauma
Neuropathic/Diabetic Ulcers	Skin lesions common in diabetics, related to sensory loss particularly of lower limbs
Non-enteric Fistula	Passageway or pathway not related to intestinal tissue
Osteomyelitis	Inflammation of bone and bone marrow usually caused by infection can result in death of bone tissue
Palliative Care	Any care or treatment that concentrates on reducing symptoms rather than halt, reverse or cure
Perfusion	The pumping of a fluid through an organ or tissue
Peri-wound	The skin surrounding a wound
Pressure Ulcers	Open wound that forms whenever prolonged pressure is applied to skin covering bony prominences
Slough	Dead tissue separating from living tissue; especially a mass of dead tissue separating from an ulcer
Surgical Flaps	Surgical relocation of tissue with blood supply intact. Tissue excision with portion still joined at base
Surgical Graft	Complete excision of tissue (i.e., skin) lifted completely from donor site for placement elsewhere on body
Traumatic Wounds	Wounds caused by injury
Venous Insufficiency	Inadequate circulation specifically involving veins from the lower limbs to the heart