



+⁺ adapthealth
+⁺ patient care solutions

Medicare Utilization Guidelines **Wound Care Products**

855-967-8669

Dressing	Maximum Frequency	Drainage	Thickness / Stage	Special Comments
Alginate or other Fiber Gelling Dressing	Up to 1x / Day	Mod / Heavy	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	
Collagen Dressing	1x or more per week / Depending on product	Minimal / Mod	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	Not covered for heavily draining wounds, third degree burns or wounds with active vasculitis.
Composite Dressing	Up to 3x / Week	Mod / Heavy	Any	
Contact Layer	Up to 1x / Week	Any	Any	Not covered when used in combination with dressings that have a non-adherent or semi-adherent layer.
Foam / Bordered Foam Dressing	Up to 3x / Week	Mod / Heavy	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	
Bordered Gauze	Up to 1x / Day	Any	Any	
Gauze, Non-impregnated	Up to 3x / Day	Any	Any	Not covered when used to stack more than two gauze pads on top of one another in any one area or wound.
Gauze, Impregnated	Up to 1x / Day	Any	Any	Coverage applies to gauze dressings impregnated with filler other than water, normal saline, hydrogel or zinc paste.
Roll Gauze	Up to 3x / Day	Any	Any	
Hydrocolloid Dressing	Up to 3x / Week	Minimal / Mod	Any	
Hydrogel Filler (Tube)	Up to 3 ounces / Month	None / Minimal	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	Only covered for wounds with a cavity.
Hydrogel Gauze / Sheet	Up to 1x / Day	None / Minimal	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	
Specialty Absorptive Dressing With Border	Up to 1x / Every other day	Mod / Heavy	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	
Specialty Absorptive Dressing Without Border	Up to 1x / Day	Mod / Heavy	**Full Thickness / Stage 3 or 4	
Transparent Film	Up to 3x / Week	Minimal	*Partial Thickness / Stage 2	

Medicare will cover a primary and secondary surgical dressing for each wound, if the wound qualifies for Part B benefits, meets the criteria specified in the Policy Article for Surgical Dressings and the product type and quantity are medically necessary for the specific characteristics of the wound.

* **Partial Thickness / Stage 2:** Skin loss involving epidermis, dermis or both. The ulcer is superficial and presents clinically as an abrasion, blister or shallow crater.

** **Full Thickness / Stage 3:** Skin loss involving damage to, or necrosis of subcutaneous tissue that may extend down to, but not through underlying fascia. The ulcer presents clinically as a deep crater with or without undermining of adjacent tissue.

** **Full Thickness / Stage 4:** Skin loss with extensive destruction, tissue necrosis or damage to muscle, bone or supporting structures (e.g., tendon, joint capsule). Undermining and sinus tracts also may be associated with Stage 4 pressure ulcers.

Coverage Guidelines

Surgical dressings are covered when a qualifying wound is present:

1. A wound caused by, or treated by, a surgical procedure; or,
2. A wound that requires debridement, regardless of the debridement technique.

Dressing size must be based on and appropriate to the size of the wound.

Unless otherwise noted, the information on this card was obtained from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Local Coverage Determination for Surgical Dressings). Be advised that information contained herein is intended to serve as a useful reference for informational purposes only and is not complete clinical information or a guarantee of coverage. This information is intended for use only by competent healthcare professionals exercising judgment in providing care. AdaptHealth Patient Care Solutions cannot be held responsible for the continued currency of or for any errors or omissions in the information.