



Policy Name Disposal, Storage, and Cleaning of Wound Care Equipment	Policy Number: 0160
	Effective Date: October 31, 2007
Approved By: Management Committee	Date Revised: September 15, 2009
Classification: Delivery of Care to Residents and Families	Page No: Page 1 of 2

POLICY

Agapé will follow standard practice protocols set out by the Alberta Health Services when dealing with disposal, storage and cleaning of wound care equipment. Most wound care done at Agapé is using clean technique with only a few exceptions. The goal of this policy is to reduce opportunity for infection as well as excess wastage of dressing supplies.

PROCEDURE

1. All new wound care supplies must be stored in our clean dressing room.
2. Dressing supplies will be stored in the "nursing section" of the armoire in the residents room. Supplies brought in by the resident/family are **never** to be put into our clean dressing room. These supplies should be used first. All open supplies are to be in a labeled zip-lock plastic bag. The outside of the bag should be wiped with a disinfectant weekly or changed monthly. **Take only two days worth of supplies from the clean dressing room to avoid wastage.**
3. **DO NOT** go back to the clean supply room in the middle of a dressing procedure for more supplies without removing your gloves and washing hands. **DO NOT** carry dressing supplies and equipment from one resident room to another.
4. If the wound does not require a standard dressing size, the dressing may be cut using the following standards:
 - Cut in clean dressing room with clean scissors provided on cart. Dressing packaging can then be closed, dated and left in the utility room.
 - OR
 - Cut in resident's room using the disposable scissors for that resident. Dressing packaging can then be closed, dated and left in bedside Ziploc bag.
5. Wound cleansers, including normal saline, **must be** discarded when no longer required. They are not to be used for other residents, or refilled.
6. Soiled dressings and gloves must be disposed in a sealed plastic bag.



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7. Supplies in the resident's Ziploc bag at the bedside need to be disposed of when they are no longer required. The dressing supplies and Ziploc bag **CAN NOT BE USED** for another resident.
8. All scissors used in the resident's room are to be disposable. They need to be disposed of between residents.

REFERENCE

Calgary Health Region. Care Centre Infection Prevention and Control Audit Tool - March 2007. Compliance with 2005 Wound and Nail Care Equipment Standards and Recommendations. (2007). Pg. 1-17.