

# PIN SITE CARE FOR FRAME PATIENTS

## PIN SITE CARE

The following protocol will assist in the prevention of post-surgical complications and infection. Whilst serious infection is unlikely. It is important the patient takes a proactive approach to care for their wounds and follows the care instructions daily. It is also important the patient is aware and responsive to any signs of infection. The initial phase of infection will involve skin redness and an increase in heat at the pin site. Small loss of blood or serous fluid should be noted, but

these symptoms will subside after **72h**. If skin redness is persistent, and warmth and discharge increase,

**REDNESS IS TRANSIENT AND DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT THERE IS AN INFECTION**

as well as pain, then hydrogen peroxide should be applied as described below. If pin looseness occurs or pus is present, please **contact Dr. Slater's rooms.**

**Please purchase the below equipment from your local pharmacy for your aftercare:**

- ✓ Dressing pack
- ✓ Sterile Gauze
- ✓ Betadine
- ✓ Vas Gauze or Jelonet or Bactigras cut into square 10x15cm with Yto allow for pin
- ✓ 3% Hydrogen Peroxide
- ✓ 0.9% Sodium Chloride

### To Start

With a 10 ml syringe twice a day, squirt the pin sites with hydrogen peroxide; then, with another 10 ml syringe, squirt the pin sites with betadine.

Allow the betadine to dry. With a swab, remove residual betadine and leave Betadine at the pin sites.

**If you have other surgical wounds/incisions, they must be kept dry until sutures are removed (10-14days).**

## IF A CRUST DEVELOPS AT THE PIN SITES



- ✓ Perform proper hand hygiene with soap and water prior to performing pin care and prior to removing dressings.
- ✓ Open dressing pack and completely soak swabs with Betadine.
- ✓ Soak around the pin to dissolve any old blood one at a time using fresh swabs. Be careful not to pull or tear the skin. Use swabs to remove any crust that might be present.
- ✓ Clean around the pin with Betadine and Gauze. Use a new gauze swab for each pin. This is to avoid spreading germs from one site to another. Use gauze to ensure the wound site is dry. Moisture can lead to infection.
- ✓ Apply betadine around each pin site using one swab for each pin.
- ✓ Apply Vas Gauze or Jelonet or Bactigras. Ensure the dressing applies some pressure to the wound to prevent skin from tenting to the pin.

**Continue to clean the pin sites  
daily using the above procedure**

## Contact Us



T: 02 9020 7388  
E: [info@drgordonslater.com.au](mailto:info@drgordonslater.com.au)  
W: [www.orthopaedic-surgeon.com.au](http://www.orthopaedic-surgeon.com.au)

## SHOWER CARE



- Showering is allowed 48 hours post-operation.
- Ensure pins are dried using a fresh, clean towel after each shower.
- Avoid the use of a toothbrush to clean pins, as this encourages cross-contamination.
- Do not have a bath with your frame, as this will increase the likelihood of infection.

## BROKEN /LOOSE WIRE?

If you experience a broken wire, rest at home and contact Dr Slater's rooms

Monday –  
Friday 09:00 – 17:00

Ph: 02 9020 7388