












How to Take Care of Your Skin Infection

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|  | <p>Wash your hands</p> | <p>Use soap and warm water or antiseptic hand gel.</p> <p>For at least 15 seconds each time</p> <p>Before eating. After using the toilet. After blowing your nose.</p> | | |
|  | <p>Shower daily using soap</p> | <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="771 409 1096 661"> <p>With bandage on</p> <p>Before--Wrap a waterproof covering (such as plastic wrap) around the bandage.</p> <p>After--Change bandage if there is pus showing. WEAR GLOVES</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1096 409 1485 661"> <p>With bandage removed</p> <p>Before--Set the shower sprayer at a light to moderate pressure. Carefully wash around the infected area.</p> <p>After--Cover wound with a clean dry bandage. WEAR GLOVES</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p>With bandage on</p> <p>Before--Wrap a waterproof covering (such as plastic wrap) around the bandage.</p> <p>After--Change bandage if there is pus showing. WEAR GLOVES</p> | <p>With bandage removed</p> <p>Before--Set the shower sprayer at a light to moderate pressure. Carefully wash around the infected area.</p> <p>After--Cover wound with a clean dry bandage. WEAR GLOVES</p> |
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|  | <p>Change into clean clothes</p> | <p>After you shower</p> <p>If pus gets on your clothes</p> | | |
|  | <p>Wash clothes after each use</p> | <p>Uniform, practice clothes, towel, and washcloth.</p> <p>Use warm or hot water, detergent, and bleach as appropriate.</p> | | |
|  | <p>Do not share personal items</p> | <p>Such as clothing, equipment, razors, nail clippers, towels, washcloths, or bars of soap.</p> | | |
|  | <p>Do not let others touch your infection! Never squeeze or pop boils! This will spread infection!</p> | | | |
|  | <p>Keep it covered</p> | <p>If your bandage comes off, throw it away in a plastic bag <i>and wash your hands</i>.</p> <p>You need a new bandage- WEAR GLOVES -to apply.</p> | | |
|  | <p>Soak</p> | <p>Soak the infected area in warm water or with a warm, moist cloth 2-3 times each day for 20 minutes. If or when draining (pus) begins, you need a new bandage- WEAR GLOVES-to apply.</p> <p>Whirlpools should not be used for soaking the infected area.</p> | | |
|  | <p>Medication</p> | <p>Don't share medication with anyone.</p> <p>Take ALL the medication the doctor prescribes.</p> <p>If you don't take all the antibiotics the doctor gives you, the germs causing your infection may start another infection.</p> | | |
|  | <p>Seek medical attention IMMEDIATELY</p> | <p>If you have fever or chills.</p> <p>If you see red streaks radiating from the infected area.</p> <p>If your infection starts to smell bad or drain.</p> <div data-bbox="998 1921 1242 2016" style="text-align: right;">  </div> | | |

Taking Care of Wounds That Are Draining or Have Not Healed



How to Change Your Bandage:

- **Gather your supplies**
 - Plastic trash bag
 - Plastic gloves
 - Soap or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
 - Bandage
 - Q-tip

- Wash your hands with soap and hot water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Put on clean gloves before touching the skin around the wound.
- Follow the directions from the nurse or doctor for changing the bandage.
- Throw away used bandages in the trash bag.
- Throw away any dirty supplies, such as Q-tips, in the trash bag.
- Take off the plastic gloves and put them in the trash bag.
- Close the trash bag and put the bag in the common garbage.
- Wash hands again with soap and hot water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Put on clean gloves.
- Apply new dressing.

While Changing Your Bandage:

**DO NOT TOUCH ANY OTHER PARTS OF YOUR BODY.
DO NOT TOUCH ANY OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS-BED, SINK, FAUCET, or TOWEL.
DO NOT TOUCH ANY OTHER PERSON.**

Change Your Bandage:

- As often as the doctor or nurse tells you—at least twice a day.
- Any time that you can see pus or drainage on the bandage.
- If the bandage gets wet or loose.