



WOUND CARE ADDENDUM: Acetic Acid Soaks

Some surgeries are at a slightly higher risk for infection by an organism named *Pseudomonas*. To decrease the chance of infection, please follow these additional wound care instructions. They should be added to your wound care regimen on postoperative days 3 through 7 for wounds that have been sutured completely closed. For wounds that are healing in by secondary intention (as an open wound) this should be continued until completely healed.

This should be performed after removing the crusts with hydrogen peroxide and before drying the wound with a sterile 4 X 4 gauze pad.

1. In a small bowl mix:
 - 1 part white vinegar
 - 1 part distilled water (available at your local grocery store)
 - Note: if this stings when applied you can dilute the vinegar solution to 1 part white vinegar to 2 parts distilled water.
2. Wet a 4 X 4 gauze pad with the vinegar mixture described above.
3. Soak the wound for 10-15 minutes, twice a day before you shower.
4. Completely dry the area with a sterile 4 X 4 gauze pad before applying Vaseline ointment and redressing the wound as detailed in your primary wound care instructions.