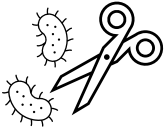


Long-term care residents with wounds are more vulnerable to infection, adding to other risk factors like advanced age and immunocompromised status.



Wound care can be a source of infection transmission in long-term care facilities when there are gaps in infection prevention practice.

Ensure these steps are in place for every dressing change:

- ✓ Disinfect work area and gather all supplies before starting.
- ✓ Wound cart should remain outside resident's room and should never be accessed while wearing gloves.
- ✓ Wound care equipment, medications, and supplies should be dedicated to a single resident.
- ✓ Scissors must be cleaned and disinfected after each use. **For residents with group A strep infection or during a GAS outbreak**, scissors should be dedicated to individual residents and not used on other residents.
- ✓ Multi-dose wound care medications should be dedicated to a single resident if possible. If not dedicated, put a small amount of medication in a clean container just prior to dressing change.
- ✓ Remove both gloves, **perform hand hygiene, and put on clean gloves when moving from dirty to clean wound care activities**, *including after touching any item that could be contaminated*.
- ✓ After completing wound care, discard unused supplies or dedicate them to the resident. Disinfect any equipment and surfaces that could have been contaminated during wound care.