

Wound Advice

Dorset Prosthetic Centre

Will I have a wound after my amputation?

Yes everybody has a wound after their surgery. For some people the wound heals very quickly and for some people the wound can take longer to heal.

What can I do to help my wound to heal?

If you are Diabetic keeping your blood glucose levels in good control will help the healing process.

It is known that smoking will delay the healing process, so if you can stop smoking this will encourage your wound to heal.

Having a healthy balanced diet will also encourage wound healing.

If you need any advice or support about Diabetic control, stopping smoking or diet please ask the staff at the centre and we can provide help through leaflets or signposting to groups.

Who will look after my wound?

Your District Nurse will dress your wound if you are unable to get to your GP surgery, however you will always be encouraged to attend the GP surgery if it is possible.

We are always happy to see you regarding wounds and dressings. We can liaise with your District Nurses, Practice Nurses to ensure that wound healing is encouraged.

Will I develop wounds once I have my artificial leg?

Unfortunately due to the intimate fit of the socket/ top of your artificial leg sometimes people get blisters and rubs.

It is advised to stop using the artificial leg and allow the blister to heal. This healing process can take two or three days. This is very frustrating and means returning to using your wheelchair. However if you continue to use your artificial leg the blister can develop into a wound which can take a lot longer to heal and be prone to complications such as infections.

Extra things to know!

If advised please wear your compression sock as this will help to heal the wound. Keep your skin in good condition by daily moistening, cracked skin can lead to infections. Keep your stump elevated on your stump board. Oedema/swelling will delay wound healing. Daily inspection of your residual limb (stump) will ensure that you are aware of skin changes / skin breakdown. Use a handheld mirror to make the inspection. Please do ask any member of the team for advice and help.

Remember:

You have open access to the staff in the centre so please contact us for an appointment if any wound, blisters or sores develop owing to prosthetic use. We are here to help!.

Contact us on **0300 019 4363**

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