

Wound Care After Incision & Drainage

You had an incision and drainage (I&D) of an abscess or an infected cyst. This is a procedure to drain material out of your abscess or infected cyst and clean it out so it can heal. This incision is left open to drain and to heal from the inside.

Care for your wound:

- Leave original dressing on until the next day if possible
- If your wound is packed, you may remove the packing the next day
- You may shower normally, wash the wound with soap and water, apply new dressing afterwards
- Change dressing daily or as needed to keep wound clean and dry
- Keep wound covered until drainage stops.
- DO NOT apply any ointments or creams to the wound.

Pain control:

NSAIDs, such as ibuprofen, help decrease swelling, pain, and fever. If you take blood thinner medicine, **always** ask your primary healthcare provider if NSAIDs are safe for you. Always read the medicine label and follow directions. NSAIDs can cause stomach bleeding or kidney problems in certain people.

Or

acetaminophen, such as Tylenol, can help decrease your pain. Always read medicine label and follow directions. Do not exceed more than 4,000 mg (or less if directed by your primary health provider) of acetaminophen in a 24 hour period.

Call office (636) 916-7100 if:

- The area around your wound has red streaks or is warm and painful.
- You have a fever or chills.
- You have increased redness, swelling, or pain in your wound.
- Your wound does not start to heal after a few days.
- Your abscess or infected cyst returns.