

## Clear, Adhesive Membrane Dressings

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### Proper care when using a transparent, adhesive bandage:

- Change the bandage daily if you see fluid accumulating beneath it. Otherwise, change it every two to three days.
- Wash the area when you are changing the dressing. Use soap and water and pat dry gently. It is fine to get the area wet at other times when you have the dressing in place, so you can bathe normally.
- Follow the instructions of your Family Dermatology doctor or nurse in applying the bandage. If you aren't absolutely clear about how to change the dressing, please ask.
- Be careful not to let the adhesive parts of the bandage touch as you apply it – it can be very difficult to pull them apart if they stick together.
- If you have been prescribed an antibiotic salve, be sure to apply it when you change the dressing.

### Is my wound healing properly?

You may expect to see a crust or scab on your surgical wound, but this will not necessarily occur. The wound does not need to form a scab in order to heal. You may continue to have a moist, pink to red wound base. That's perfectly fine and indicates normal healing.

Fluid collection beneath the dressing is not abnormal and does not indicate an infection. In fact, the fluid you see contains cell growth and repair factors which can only form in a moist wound.

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