

Chest Tube Dressing Change



- Gather materials:
- 2 -drain sponges according to patient size
- 2 -4x4" gauze sponges
- Chlorhexidine (Chloraprep) or povidone-iodine swab sticks
- 1 -5x9" Xeroform gauze for Trauma service patients
- 1 -Tape 2"-4"
- Non-sterile gloves
- Sterile gloves



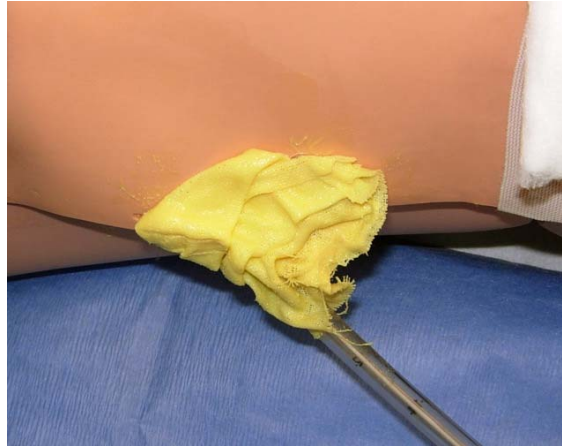
- Wash hands and apply non-sterile gloves



- Remove old dressing.
- Inspect chest tube site for:
 - 1. Redness, discoloration of the skin
 - 2. Type, amount and color of drainage
 - 3. Air leaks
 - 4. Bleeding
 - 5. Condition of sutures



- Open packages and don sterile gloves.
- Cleanse site with chlorhexidine or povidone-iodine swab sticks. Cleanse the first 2" of the chest tube with the antiseptic, starting where it exits the skin. Repeat x2 and allow to dry.



- For Trauma Service patients only- apply Xeroform around the chest tube at the insertion site, making an air-tight seal.



- Apply the split 4x4 gauze dressing/sponges around the chest tube so that the openings do not lie directly over one another.
- Lay two 4x4" gauze sponges over the sponges covering the chest tube.



- Apply tape to create an occlusive dressing.
- Date and time dressing.