

REMOVAL OF SKIN STAPLES POSTOPERATIVELY



Supplies



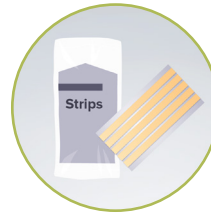
Sterile staple removal kit



Gauze



Normal saline



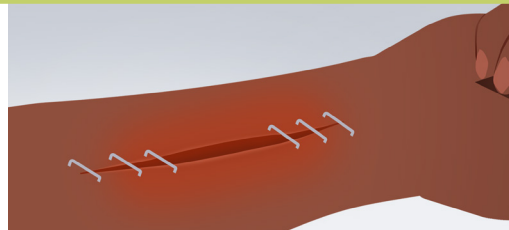
Adhesive strips

Pre-Procedure

- ✓ Perform hand hygiene.
- ✓ Provide privacy.
- ✓ Explain procedure to client and assess pain level.
- ✓ Raise bed to an appropriate height.
- ✓ Assist client into proper position.



If signs of infection or dehiscence are present, stop and contact provider prior to proceeding.

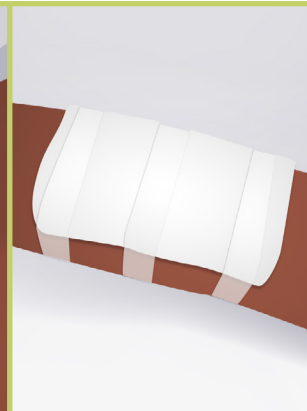
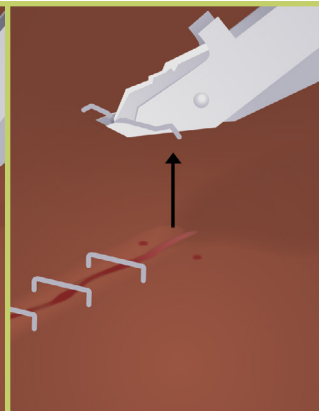
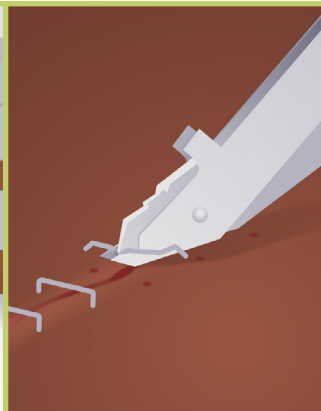


Skin Assessment

- ✓ Assess incision site for signs of infection: redness, warmth, swelling, discharge, drainage.
- ✓ Assess incision site for dehiscence.

Procedure

1. Perform hand hygiene and put on gloves.
2. Remove wound dressing if present.
3. Assess the incision site.
4. If wound dressing was soiled, discard gloves, perform hand hygiene and put on new gloves before proceeding.
5. Open sterile staple removal kit.
6. Cleanse the incision site using gauze and normal saline.
7. Place the bottom of the staple remover under the center of first staple.
8. Keep staple remover stable against skin and compress the handle. The staple ends will pull up and out of the incision.
9. Lift the staple out of skin. Release pressure on handle to release staple into appropriate disposal unit.
10. Repeat removal of staples, in order, until complete (or as directed).
11. Apply adhesive strips if needed.
12. Apply dressing if ordered.
13. Dispose of supplies, remove gloves, and perform hand hygiene.
14. Assess client's comfort.
15. Provide aftercare instructions.
16. Document the procedure.



CLINICAL TIP:

Don't lift the staple remover while squeezing the handle. Wait until ends of staple have popped up and out of the skin.

NOTES

