ABSCESS INCISION SITE

When you return home from the hospital, there will be dressings in place over the incision site. This dressing contains a slow release antibiotic. You may be instructed to change the dressing every 1-2 days until your return appointment. You may be instructed to shower, allowing soap and water to rinse the incision site. Pat the area dry after showering, repack the incision site with antibiotic dressing, then cover with dry gauze. If your dressing becomes loose or moves, you can tape it to your skin to hold it in place. If the incision site is on your arms, hands, legs or feet, keep it elevated as much as possible to treat or prevent swelling. There may be some yellow or brown fluid coming from the incision site or on the old dressing, which is normal and a result of the antibiotic dressing.

PACKING THE INCISION SITE/DRESSING CHANGE

- 1. Wash your hands.
- 2. Remove the outer dressing and the antibiotic dressing.
- 3. Wash your hands again.
- 4. Clean your incision site as instructed.
- 5. Cut new antibiotic dressing into strips to fit the incision site.
- 6. Pack the new antibiotic dressing into incision site.
- 7. Secure the dressing with dry gauze and tape.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF AN INFECTION

- + Temperature of 101.5° or greater.
- + Fluid that is green, tan, creamy, thick or smells.
- + Redness spreading out from around the edges of the burn.
- Worsening/increasing pain.









855-863-9595 • www.burncenters.com

