



Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for Skin and Wound Care in Long Term Care



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Forward

The *Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for Skin and Wound Care* is the complete resource for facilities caring for residents/patients with skin and wound care concerns. It provides the written platform for care provided by the facility. This comprehensive manual also assists the facility to meet their compliance goals by providing the framework for:

- Careplanning standards
- Classification standards
- Compliance standards
- Comprehensive Glossary for skin and wound care
- Documentation standards
- Dressing, Drug and Device management
- Formulary management
- Quick reference guides for Interpretive Guidelines
- Understanding the FTags 309, 314, 315, 501
- Wound Clinical Findings and Management for Arterial, Diabetic, Pressure, and Venous Ulcers

The manual also provides a means of education. It is a template in which to expand upon policies, procedures and processes for best clinical and operational practices.

What is presented within the contents of this *Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for Skin and Wound Care* manual is not a mandate, but a guide to either augment existing skin and wound care policies and procedures, or a base from which to launch a state-of-the-art skin and wound care program within your facility. Future updates to this manual will be made available from time to time. Visit Wound Care Strategies' web site: www.woundcarestrategies.com for updates.

Every attempt has been made to ensure that the contents of this manual are accurate and up-to-date, reflecting the most current clinical standards. This manual is a tool, and like any tool it may be misunderstood, misused, or inappropriate for a particular application. Neither the publisher, Wound Care Strategies, Inc., nor the author, Cathy Thomas Hess, can be held accountable for any regrettable outcome that may be obtained by the user of this manual.

The contents of this manual are provided for repeated use as an educational training tool, within the same facility. No part or portion of this manual, or future updates that may be provided from Wound Care Strategies, Inc., may be reproduced in any manner, mechanical or electronic or other, without appropriate licensure and the express written permission of the Publisher.

Best wishes for your continued skin and wound care success.

Team Wound Care Strategies®

Introduction

Effective skin and wound management is built upon a series of clinical and operational processes. Clinically, the health care professional must understand the cellular and biochemical actions that occur immediately upon injury and thereafter, namely hemostasis, inflammation, proliferation and maturation processes. Operationally, the health care professional must have the proper assessment skills to interpret the progress or decline of wound through sound policies and procedures or standards of care based on credible, clinical evidence.

The *Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for Skin and Wound Care* manual provides the clinical and operational platform necessary to achieve positive skin and wound caring outcomes. It is a tool designed to assist trained health care professionals to meet the challenges of their profession.

This *Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for Skin and Wound Care* manual was created as a model from which to launch a new skin and wound care program, or augment an existing program. It is a tool designed to assist trained health care professionals to meet the challenges of their profession.

This manual will be updated from time to time. Updates will be available from Wound Care Strategies' web site.

We welcome your comments and creative criticisms. They may help lead to improvements and updates. Please address your comments to cthess@woundcarestrategies.com. Although I may not be able to get back to you right away, your comments will be shared with the Wound Care Strategies' team.

Please use the *Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for Skin and Wound Care* as either a "bedside" or "desk" reference when providing care to your patient population.

Respectfully,

