

External Fixator Pin Site Care Guideline

Initial Dressing change:

- Plan for change of OR pin site dressings at 24 hours unless otherwise instructed. May be completed by orthopedics team, trauma team or bedside nursing
- If pin site dressings saturated prior to 24 hours:
 - OK to remove and replace with 4x4 gauze and Kerlix dressing
 - If more than 2 dressings saturated within 12 hours of surgery, notify primary team for assessment and further pin site management

Subsequent dressing changes:

- Every 24 hours pin site dressings should be changed
- Can be completed by bedside nursing, primary team or orthopedics team
- Remove kerlix and 4x4 on site and assess pin sites
 - Please notify primary team if concerns
- Replace dressing with following:
 - 4x4 gauze
 - Kerlix
 - DO NOT USE: ointments, creams, hydrogen peroxide or other solutions unless directed by the orthopedics team