



## Caring for your wound dressing after the insertion of your implant device

- After your implant device procedure (pacemaker or defibrillator), a small dressing will be placed over the wound. The dressing is “hydrocolloid”, which means it provides a moist wound-healing environment, while protecting from contamination. It also has the following benefits:
  - it is ‘see through’ so the wound can be assessed without the dressing being removed
  - it is waterproof, so you can shower with the dressing in place
  - it is absorbent
  - it provides a protective barrier over the wound
- Keep the dressing on for seven days to allow for wound healing. If the dressing leaks, contact the EP & Pacing Coordinator on (07) 3139 5243 or contact your local doctor.
- You must see your doctor in one week for a dressing removal and wound check. Keep the dressing on until then. It should not be necessary to replace the dressing as the wound should have healed.
- Please note that the hydrocolloid dressing may produce the following:
  - Wound ooze under the dressing. This is normal. The ooze interacts with the dressing and forms a cloudy gel. This helps the wound to heal.
  - If the wound oozes a lot, the cloudiness may spread under the dressing. This is normal. If the dressing leaks, contact the EP & Pacing Coordinator on (07) 3139 5243 or contact your local doctor to have the dressing replaced.
  - If the wound becomes itchy or a rash develops or there is any discomfort under the dressing, contact the EP & Pacing Coordinator on (07) 3139 5243 or see your local doctor.
  - Please tell the staff at the hospital if you are allergic to these dressings, or to any adhesive tapes or other dressings.
- If you have any concerns after hours, see your local hospital or after hours medical centre.