

VAD Standard Operating Procedure

Gauze Driveline Dressing

Effective Date October 2019
Approval Date October 2019
Supersedes November 2018

I. Purpose:

To maintain a sterile dressing to the (Ventricular Assist Device) VAD driveline site to reduce the possibility of infection.

II. Consideration:

It is the policy of the Vanderbilt Mechanical Assist Program that the nurse caring for the patient with a VAD be deemed competent of performing a driveline dressing change, per this protocol, by a VAD Care Team member, VAD specific super user, or VAD unit educator with a completed competency check off.

III. Supplies Needed:

- A. 4x4 sterile fluff sponge tubs (five 4x4's per tub) – 3 tubs ;
- B. Non-sterile gloves – 1 pair;
- C. Sterile gloves – 1 pair;
- D. Hibiclens – 1, 4oz bottle;
- E. Sterile NS – 1, 250cc bottle;
- F. Masks – one for each person in room, including patient;
- G. Sterile 2x2 drain sponges – 2 packages;
- H. Sterile 2x2 sponge – 1 pack;
- I. 2" Medipore tape;
- J. Centurion Foley anchor or Hollister drain attachment – 1 anchor for HVAD & HM2, 2 anchors for HM3; and
- K. Rubbing alcohol/Sani-wipes – 2 wipes to clean table surface/work area.

IV. Set Up:

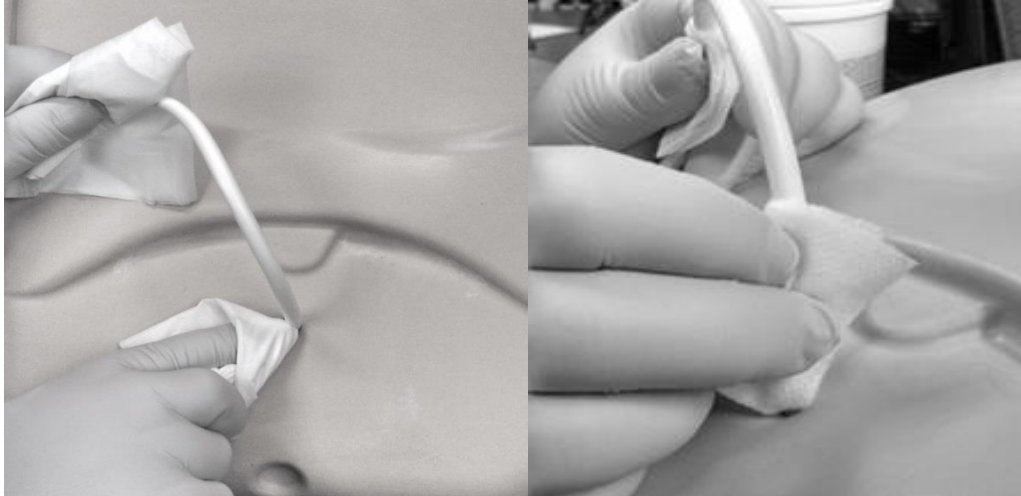
- A. Elevate bed to comfortable height;
- B. Move waste basket close to bed/table/patient;
- C. Remove patient's abdominal binder;
- D. Remove hand and wrist jewelry;
- E. Perform routine hand hygiene with soap and water or with alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- F. Put mask on patient, yourself, and anyone else in the room;

- G. Wipe work area down with alcohol or approved substitute;
- H. Open all three 4x4 tubs – maintaining sterility:
 - 1. Cleaning Tub – Pour 1/3 bottle of Hibiclens (~40cc of 4oz bottle) and then pour 1/2 bottle of sterile NS into tub;
 - 2. Rinsing Tub – Pour remaining 1/2 bottle of sterile NS into tub; and
 - 3. Drying Tub – Keep 4x4's dry.
- I. Open sterile 2x2's and gloves, leaving them in sterile packages; and
- J. Have unused Medipore tape available.

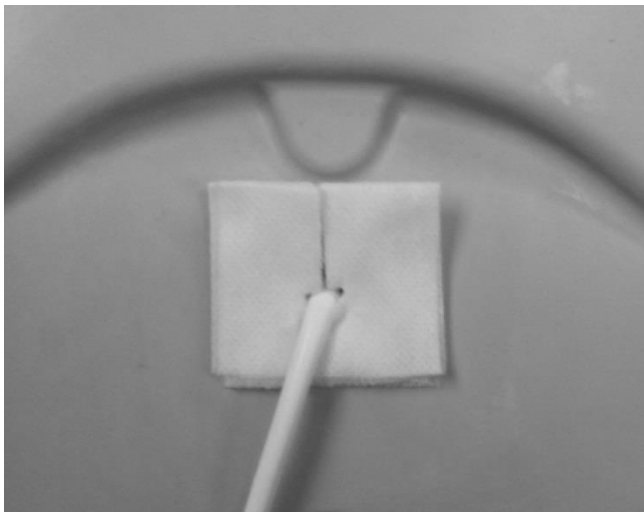
NOTE: Unused Hibiclens and Medipore tape may be saved from dressing change to dressing change.

V. Dressing Change:

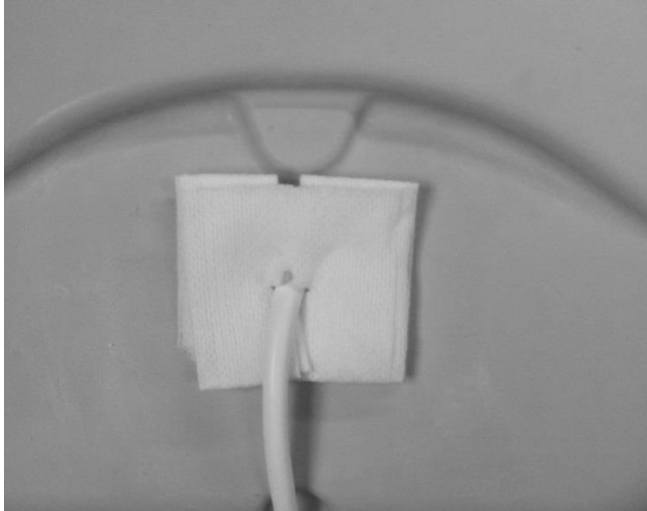
- A. Apply non-sterile gloves;
- B. Release driveline securement anchor;
- C. Remove old dressing. DO NOT USE SCISSORS FOR ANY REASON;
- D. Examine driveline exit site;
- E. Remove non-sterile gloves;
- F. Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- G. Apply sterile gloves;
- H. Carefully turn over all gauze in Cleaning Tub and Rinsing Tub to ensure that the gauze is uniformly saturated;
- I. Using one dry 4x4 fluff, pick and hold up the driveline for ease of cleaning;
- J. Wipe gently around driveling exit site with all Hibiclens soaked fluffs (1 fluff at a time). Cleanse the exit site and surrounding skin in a circular motion (complete 3 full circles) working from exit site outward. With a different section of gauze, wrap gauze around and clean the driveline working from exit site outward; without tugging the driveline;
- K. Repeat previous step using all 5 fluffs, 1 at a time:



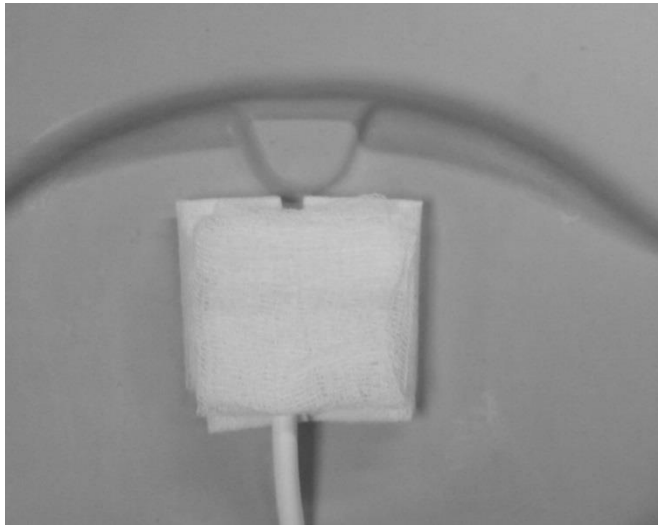
- L. To rinse driveline site; wipe gently around driveline exit site with all sterile NS-soaked fluffs (1 fluff at a time). Cleanse the exit site and surrounding skin in a circular motion (complete 3 full circles) working from exit site outward. With a different section of gauze, wrap gauze around and clean the driveline working from exit site outward; without tugging;
- M. Repeat previous step using all 5 gauze;
- N. Completely dry driveline site with all sterile fluffs in tub #3 (1 fluff at a time) using same technique as above. Work from exit site outward; without tugging until completely dry;
- O. Repeat previous step using all 4-gauze remaining;
- P. Ensure driveline and skin surrounding exit site in completely dry;
- Q. Apply one package of sterile 2x2 drain sponges around driveline site:



- R. Apply the second package of sterile 2x2 drain sponges around driveline site in an opposite direction of the first package:

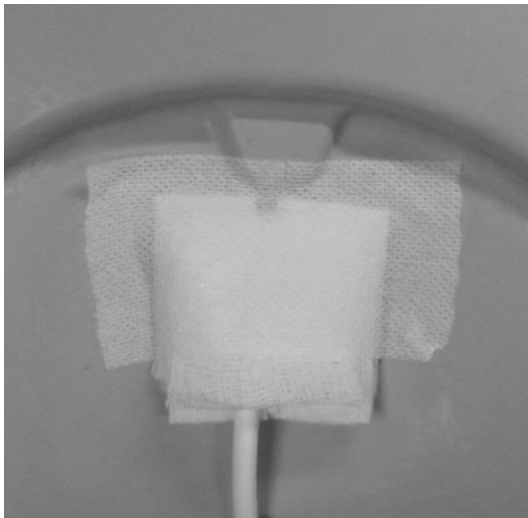


- S. Place sterile 2x2 gauze over the 2x2 drain sponges at driveline site:

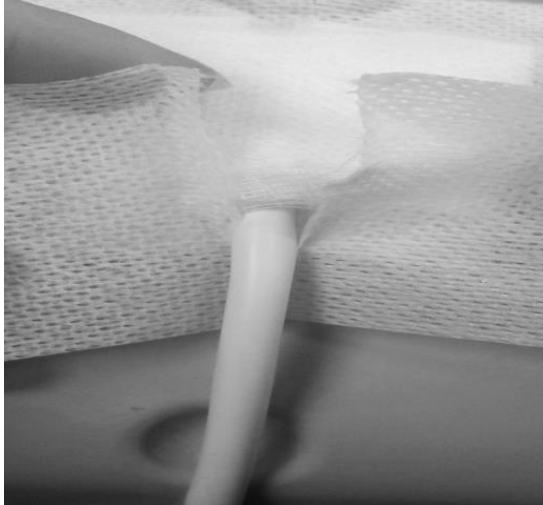


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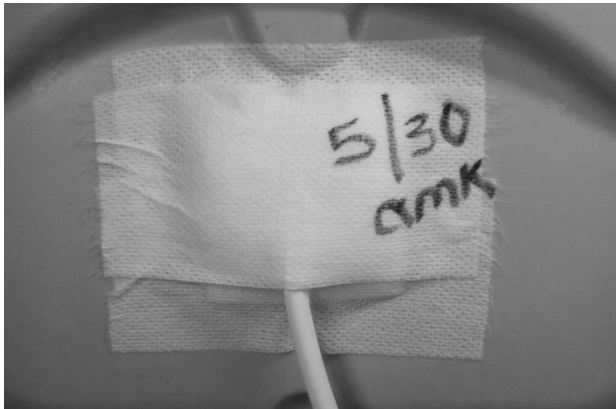
- U. Apply tape on one side of the gauze at the top of the driveline



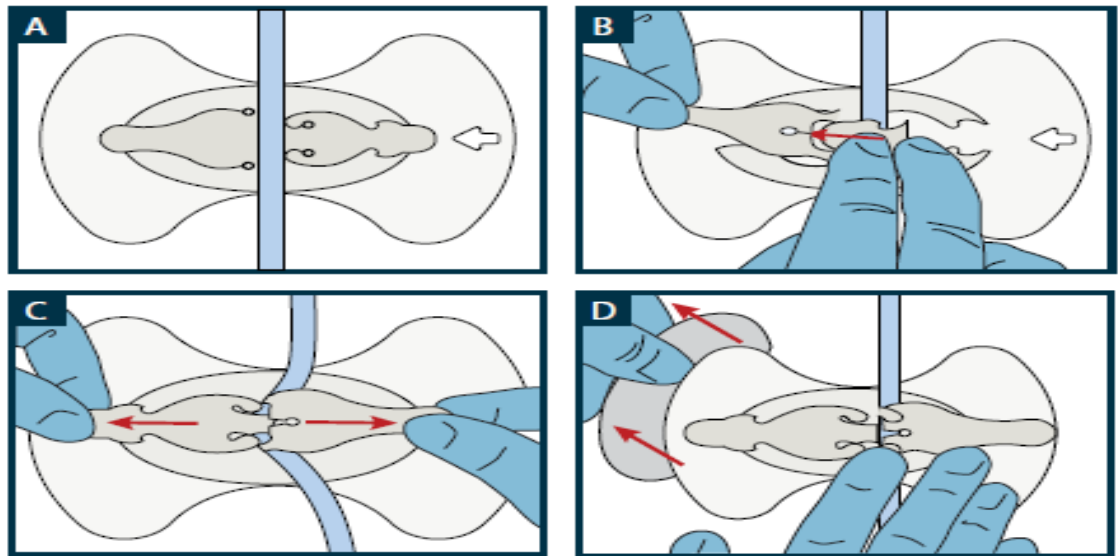
- V. Apply 2nd piece of tape under driveline. Tap should be torn on the perforation, half-way. Wrap the split tape around the driveline and secure to the gauze 2x2



- W. Apply a third piece of tape over the center of the dressing
1. Sign with date and initial



- X. Re secure driveline into anchor devices (1 for HVAD & HM2, 2 for HM3) with a small amount of slack. Apply new anchor if previous anchor has been on for 1 week or longer or is not well secured
1. OPTIONAL: Apply enclosed skin protectant and allow to dry
 2. Position anchor under driveline at desired location (A)
 3. Holding driveline in place, locate arrow on base of device. Pull up tab. (B)
 4. Locate second tab across from arrow and pull up tab to expose slit (B)
 5. Using tab on the same side as arrow, push tab thru slit (B)
 6. Grasping both tabs, pull them in opposite direction until the first tab pulls completely through the slit and the tabs lock into place (C)
 7. While holding the driveline in place, peel off one side of paper backing and press anchor into place. Repeat on other side to secure device (D)



- Y. Re apply abdominal binder to secure driveline site
- Z. Document dressing change and condition of the exit site
- AA. Call a member of the VAD Team if edema, redness, drainage, tenderness, or foul odor is noted at driveline site

VI. Approval:

Ashish Shah, MD

10/11/19

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10/11/19

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