

# Wound Care – Goals & Objectives

- **Participating Site(s):** Outpatient wound care clinic; inpatient consult services (as applicable)
- **Duration:** 2-4 weeks
- **Required or Elective:** Elective

## Rotation Overview

The Wound Care rotation provides residents with focused training in the evaluation and management of acute and chronic wounds across a variety of clinical settings. Residents gain experience in wound assessment, staging, prevention strategies, and evidence-based treatment modalities, including medical management, procedural interventions, and interdisciplinary care coordination. The rotation emphasizes patient safety, chronic disease management, and optimization of wound healing.

## Overall Rotation Goal

The goal of this rotation is for residents to develop competence in the comprehensive assessment, prevention, and management of wounds, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration, evidence-based care, and patient-centered treatment planning.

## Educational Objectives (Aligned with ACGME Competencies)

### Patient Care

Residents will be able to:

- Perform comprehensive wound assessments, including size, depth, tissue type, drainage, and signs of infection
- Classify and stage common wound types, including:
  - Pressure injuries
  - Diabetic foot ulcers
  - Venous stasis ulcers
  - Arterial ulcers
  - Surgical and traumatic wounds
- Develop and implement individualized wound care treatment plans
- Manage wound-associated infections and recognize indications for systemic therapy
- Provide preventive counseling related to pressure injury prevention, offloading, nutrition, and skin care
- Recognize wounds requiring surgical, vascular, podiatric, or infectious disease consultation

### Medical Knowledge

Residents will be able to:

- Understand the physiology of wound healing and factors that impair healing
- Apply evidence-based strategies for:
  - Debridement techniques
  - Dressing selection
  - Moisture balance
  - Infection control
- Recognize the impact of comorbid conditions such as diabetes, vascular disease, malnutrition, and immobility on wound healing
- Understand indications and limitations of advanced wound therapies, including negative pressure wound therapy and biologic dressings

- Interpret basic vascular studies relevant to wound care, when applicable

### **Practice-Based Learning and Improvement**

Residents will be able to:

- Utilize current guidelines and evidence in wound management
- Reflect on wound outcomes to improve treatment strategies and preventive care
- Identify gaps in knowledge related to wound care and pursue targeted learning

### **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

Residents will be able to:

- Communicate effectively with patients and caregivers regarding wound care plans and expectations
- Provide clear instructions for home wound care and prevention strategies
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary team members, including nursing, podiatry, surgery, vascular medicine, and physical therapy
- Demonstrate empathy and patient-centered communication, particularly in chronic and complex wound cases

### **Professionalism**

Residents will be able to:

- Demonstrate accountability and reliability in wound care management and follow-up
- Respect patient dignity and comfort during wound examinations and procedures
- Maintain appropriate documentation and infection control practices
- Advocate for patient adherence and access to wound care resources

### **Systems-Based Practice**

Residents will be able to:

- Coordinate care across outpatient clinics, inpatient services, and home health agencies
- Utilize wound care supplies and advanced therapies appropriately and cost-effectively
- Recognize system barriers to wound healing and facilitate appropriate referrals and support services
- Understand the role of interdisciplinary wound care teams in optimizing outcomes

## **PGY-Level Expectations**

### **PGY-1:**

- Perform basic wound assessments under supervision
- Recognize common wound types and signs of infection
- Participate in patient education regarding wound care and prevention

### **PGY-2:**

- Independently assess and manage common wounds with indirect supervision
- Develop comprehensive wound care plans, including prevention strategies
- Coordinate referrals and interdisciplinary care as appropriate

### **PGY-3:**

- Manage complex or non-healing wounds with increasing autonomy
- Lead interdisciplinary discussions related to wound management

- Serve as a resource for junior residents regarding wound care principles

### **Teaching and Learning Activities**

- Supervised wound care clinics and consults
- Direct observation of wound assessment and treatment techniques
- Interdisciplinary rounds and case discussions
- Independent reading and guideline-based review

### **Evaluation and Feedback**

Resident performance is evaluated through:

- Direct faculty observation
- Review of wound assessments and clinical documentation
- Participation in interdisciplinary care planning
- End-of-rotation evaluation mapped to ACGME milestones

Residents receive ongoing formative feedback and summative feedback at the conclusion of the rotation.

### **Supervision**

Faculty supervision is provided in accordance with ACGME supervision guidelines. Residents are expected to seek attending input for complex wounds, signs of systemic infection, or when uncertainty exists regarding diagnosis, management, or referral.