Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital
Orthopaedics & Traumatology

Notice for Hyphecan care

Hyphecan is a biosynthetic dressing and made from a derivative of chitin extracted from the exoskeleton of crabs, lobsters and shrimps. It contains factors that promote wound healing. It is used for patients with finger tips injury. The average healing time is about 4-5 weeks

1 Objectives

1.1 To simplify treatment of fingertip injuries
1.2 To avoid skin graft/ flap surgeries
1.3 To reduce dressing frequency and time

2 Indication

2.1 Finger tips injury
2.2 Deglove injury

3 Advantages of hyphecan using

3.1 Promote wound healing
3.2 Lower the risk of wound infection
3.3 Decrease the frequency of wound dressing
3.4 Shorten the length of hospitalization

4 Advice upon discharge

4.1 Do not remove the hyphecan
4.2 Attend Family Medicine Clinic for dressing change, remind medical staffs to change the outer dressing only and not to remove the hyphecan
4.3 Keep dressing dry and clean
4.4 Hyphecan will be kept until wound healed if no signs of infection

5 If the followings occur, please seek medical attention promptly

5.1 Fever with body temperature over 37.5°C/ 99.5°F
5.2 Increase in redness, swelling, local temperature and pain in wound or surrounding area
5.3 Wound with foul-smell or pus discharge
5.4 Skin itching with rashes or blisters
5.5 Surrounding skin or limb feels cool, numbness or cyanosis

For enquiries, please contact nurses in Orthopaedics and Traumatology Day Ward at 25957015 during office hour (7:00 am - 5:00 pm) from Monday to Friday or seek help from community nurses during home visits.