
Overview

This standard covers the actions involved in closing an invasive intervention site following the successful completion of an invasive intervention, to the point where post intervention materials can be applied. The site could be on any area of the body and could be closed following any surgical intervention.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 ensure the intervention has been completed to the point where the intervention site can be safely closed
- P2 apply standard precautions for infection control and other relevant health and safety measures, and wear personal protective clothing and additional protective equipment as appropriate
- P3 ensure that the invasive intervention site is debrided, aspirated, cleansed and irrigated in preparation for closure of the site
- P4 comfort and reassure the individual, where appropriate, whilst the invasive site is being closed
- P5 ensure that all equipment and instrumentation, swabs and supplementary items have been counted out to ensure that the site is free of equipment immediately prior to closure
- P6 ensure that the viability of organs and tissues exposed as a result of the intervention has been appropriately maintained for safe closure of the site, in line with good medical practice
- P7 ensure that any previous connections between tissues and organs that are in and/or surrounding the site are appropriately restored and reconnected
- P8 ensure that levels of bleeding are within acceptable parameters
- P9 respond promptly and effectively to any anomalies with regard to bleeding and physiological parameters, particularly vital signs
- P10 reposition/align tissues that were incised to accommodate the intervention, in order to enable the site to be closed
- P11 select the appropriate method and close the invasive intervention site in a way
 - P11.1 will minimise any post intervention discomfort, pain and trauma to the
 - P11.2 minimises damage and disruption to surrounding organs and tissues
 - P11.3 recognises the potential for complications and minimises the possibility of these occurring
- P12 apply any relevant post intervention pharmaceuticals to ensure maximum immediate sterility and protection for the site
- P13 respect the privacy, dignity and confidentiality of the individual throughout your interaction with them
- P14 maintain timely, accurate, complete and legible records in accordance with local policies and procedures and work at all times within appropriate patient and information confidentiality guidelines and protocols
- P15 work within your scope of responsibility and accountability, referring to others where appropriate and/or necessary

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols which affect your work practice
- K2 your responsibilities under the current European and national legislation, national guidelines and local policies and protocols on your actions within the EUSC environment
- K3 the policies and guidance which clarify your scope of practice and the relationship between yourself and other members of staff in terms of delegation and supervision
- K4 the principles of asepsis in relation to the use of instrumentation and supplementary items and the maintenance of the sterile field and the potential consequence of poor practice
- K5 the importance of following standard precautions relevant to the activity to be undertaken and the protective clothing which may be worn for the individual's and your protection
- K6 the potential consequences of poor practice in relation to the application of standard precautions
- K7 your role and the importance of working within your own sphere of competence
- K8 the roles and responsibilities of other team members
- K9 the importance for the quick recovery and healing of the individual of using reliable and secure suturing and knotting techniques to close the site
- K10 the procedures and techniques associated with each stage of closing the intervention site and how these can be adapted in the case of any problems
- K11 the methods of monitoring and responding to a significant change in bleeding levels/vital signs
- K12 the importance of ensuring the site is adequately cleansed, aspirated, irrigated and debrided prior to closing the site, and the techniques and procedures associated with this
- K13 techniques and procedures for repositioning and reconnecting tissues and organs prior to closure
- K14 the importance of optimising sterility and protection of the site following closure and the appropriate methods for doing so
- K15 the risks associated with invasive intervention for different patient groups and conditions
- K16 the levels of bleeding deemed acceptable and unacceptable for different patient groups and conditions
- K17 applied anatomy, general and system specific physiology and pathology, including the positioning of and connections between all of the organs and tissues within the body

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- K18 the importance of recording information clearly, accurately and in a systematic manner
 - K19 the types of information that must be recorded in relation to different activities
 - K20 the importance of recording information as soon after the event as possible
 - K21 the materials and equipment associated with each stage of closing the intervention site and the techniques and procedures for their safe handling and usage

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

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