

Choosing Wisely: Wound Care

June 1, 2018



[Choosing Wisely Canada](#)

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In 2012 Choosing Wisely was launched in the United States with the goal of advancing dialogue on avoiding wasteful or unnecessary medical tests, treatments, and procedures. Modeled after this campaign, and organized by a team of leading Canadian physicians, Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) aims to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments, and make smart and effective choices to ensure high-quality care.

Choosing Wisely for Providers

[Choosing Wisely Canada. Medical Microbiology. *Five things physicians and patients should question.*](#) Don't obtain swabs from superficial ulcers for culture as they are prone to both false negative results with respect to the cause of the infection.

[Choosing Wisely Canada. Nursing. *Nine things nurses and patients should question.*](#) Don't add extra layers of bedding beneath patients on therapeutic surfaces.

[Choosing Wisely Canada. Nursing. *Six things nurses and patients should question in nursing gerontology.*](#) Don't use a q2h turning routine unless it meets the older person's plan of care.

[Choosing Wisely \(US\). American Physical Therapy Association. *Don't use whirlpools for wound management.*](#)

[Choosing Wisely \(US\). American Podiatric Medical Association. *Don't use synthetic or donated grafts on diabetic foot wounds without first allowing for an adequate trial of standard wound care.*](#)

[Choosing Wisely \(US\). American Academy of Dermatology. *Don't routinely use topical antibiotics on a surgical wound.*](#)

[Choosing Wisely \(US\). American College of Emergency Physicians. *Avoid antibiotics and wound cultures in emergency department patients with uncomplicated skin and soft tissue abscesses after successful incision and drainage with adequate medical follow-up.*](#)

[Choosing Wisely \(UK\). Royal College of Emergency Medicine. *Tap water is just as effective for cleaning wounds as sterile saline.*](#)

[Choosing Wisely \(AUZ\). Australasian College for Emergency Medicine. *Tests, treatments and procedures clinicians and consumers should question.*](#) Avoid blood cultures in patients who are not systemically septic, have a clear source of infection and in whom a direct specimen for culture (e.g. urine, wound swab, etc.) is possible.

Choosing Wisely for Patients

[Choosing Wisely Canada. Treating blocked leg arteries: when you need a procedure and when you don't.](#)

[Choosing Wisely \(UK\). NHS Choices. *Cuts and grazes.*](#)

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University of Manitoba | 727 McDermot Avenue, Winnipeg, MB | R3E 3P5
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Email: mhiknet@umanitoba.ca | Online: www.mhiknet.ca