

# Integra Dressing Post-Operative Instructions

---

## What is an Integra dressing?

Integra is a temporary dressing used in a wound bed to create an environment that will potentially support a skin graft. This dressing is left in place until the physician is ready to graft the area. Special wound dressing is required, to make sure this area is cared for in the optimum way, to help the eventual skin graft take. Depending on your surgeon, you will be instructed to do one of the following dressing changes:

## What are my instructions for care?

### Instruction #1:

- The wound needs to stay moist at all times.
- Use moistened 4X4 gauze or size that fits, covering all areas of the Integra.
- Change the dressing, twice per day and if dressing falls off.
- Moisten the gauze over the Integra, every three to four hours using normal saline solution, to prevent the Integra from drying out.
- At night you may cover the dressing with saran wrap, to keep moist through the night. However you must remove the Saran wrap first thing in the morning, since Saran wrap does not breathe and can promote the growth of bacteria.

### Instruction #2:

- The wound needs to stay moist.
- Cover the entire piece of Integra with Xeroform and cover the Xeroform with gauze.
- This dressing is done daily.

## When should I call my doctor?

- Increased redness around the wound.
- Increase in pain or swelling.
- Drainage from the site.
- If the yellow fluid under the Integra becomes cloudy or the Integra turns black.

## Who should I call if I have questions?

- (734) 998-6022, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- After hours and on weekends, call Hospital Paging at (734) 936-6267 and ask for the Plastic Surgeon on call.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by the University of Michigan Health System (UMHS) for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by UMHS and for which UMHS does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

Author: Erin Larowe  
Reviewers: Patricia McKenzie, RN

Patient Education by [University of Michigan Health System](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License](#). Last Revised 2/2014