Protocol: Drain Removal

Purpose:
To describe the procedure for safe removal of a wound drain.

Indication:
Indicated for wound drains deemed safe for removal per trauma attending, fellow, or senior resident

Procedure:
A. Equipment
   1. nonsterile gloves
   2. face protection (mask with shield)
   3. sterile gauze 4 x 4s
   4. suture removal kit or sterile scissors
   5. hypoallergenic tape

B. JP, Hemovac, etc. drains
   1. don gloves and personal protective equipment
   2. open sterile scissors – remove sutures
   3. open gauze 4 x 4, place gauze close to drain skin exit site, instruct patient to take a deep, easy breath: swiftly, evenly withdraw drain – do not force removal of drain; if resistance felt, stop.
   4.地方 sterile dressing over drain exit site and secure with tape.
   5. write procedure note in patient’s chart documenting: type of drain removed, amount of wound drainage documented in the last 24 hours prior to drain removal, any premedication given, dressing applied after drain removed, any complications encountered, and patient tolerance of procedure.

C. NP must perform 3 successful drain removals year in order to maintain competency.

D. Document procedure on skill check off sheet

References