Transparent Film Dressing

Transparent film dressings are clear so you can see the wound through them. This type of dressing is used to protect skin in pressure spots. It can also be used to cover wounds with little or no drainage. It helps keep moisture in the wound to aid healing. No other dressing is needed to cover the film.

The dressing is changed every 5-7 days. It may need to be changed more often if it gets bunched up or the edges roll and no longer stick.

Steps to follow:

1. Wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 15 seconds. Rinse with clean water and towel dry.
2. Clean your work space using a paper towel, warm water and soap. Rinse with water on another paper towel. Use a clean dry paper towel to dry.
3. Gather your supplies:
   - Non sterile gloves
   - Transparent dressing
   - Paper tape if needed
   - Plastic trash bag
4. Put on gloves.
5. Remove your old dressing. Place the old dressing in the plastic trash bag.
6. Remove your gloves and throw them in the plastic trash bag.
7. Wash your hands again.
8. Clean the wound with a washcloth, warm water and soap. If your wound starts to bleed, you are washing it too hard. Rinse with water and pat dry with a clean towel. Be sure there are not oils or lotions on the area where the dressing is to be placed.
9. Check the wound for signs of infection. Call your doctor or nurse if you have:
   - Skin around the wound is more red, swollen or feels hot
   - Wound smells bad
   - Pus drainage
   - Temperature above 100.5 F
10. Remove the backing from the transparent dressing.
11. Position the dressing so it is centered over the wound area.
12. Apply the dressing to the skin, smoothing it so there are no creases that could irritate the skin.
13. The dressing should cover the skin by at least one inch around the wound edges.

14. Tape may be used to make a frame around the edges of the dressing if it may be damaged easily.

15. Put your supplies away.

16. Wash your hands again. Rinse and towel dry.

**Stop using Transparent Dressing if:**
- Your wounds have healed. Use moisturizing lotion on healed skin.
- You develop local irritation or a rash. Call your doctor or nurse.

**Cautions:**
- This type of dressing should not be used on frail skin because it can tear the skin when it is removed.
- The transparent dressing may be used over a gauze dressing to hold it in place. It should not be used on wounds that need dressing changes daily or more often.