

**PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS THAT ARE REQUIRED TO SUBSTANTIATE MEDICAL NECESSITY FOR SURGICAL DRESSING SUPPLIES:**

**Coverage Eligibility:** Beneficiaries with the following qualify for this benefit:

1. A surgically created wound and/or
2. A debrided wound, regardless of debridement technique

**Medical records** from the prescribing practitioner must include:

1. The type of qualifying wound (defined above)
2. Information regarding the number of qualifying wounds being treated with a dressing
3. Type of wound(s)
4. Wound location
5. Wound size (length x width) and depth
6. Amount of drainage
7. Wound thickness (e.g., full or partial) or equivalent (e.g., stage or grade)
8. Description of the dressing(s) ordered
9. Whether a dressing is being used as a primary or secondary dressing
10. The number/amount to be used at one time
11. The frequency of dressing change
12. The duration of need

**Medical Record Quick Facts:**

- This information must be updated by the treating practitioner (or their designee) on a **monthly** basis.
- For beneficiaries in a nursing facility or for beneficiaries with heavily draining or infected wounds, wound evaluations are expected on a **weekly** basis.
- Records must be available upon request.
- The prescription is not considered part of the medical records. NOTE: Should your medical record not account for these areas, we strongly encourage you request an update to your medical record forms/templates to accommodate these vital areas.

***Medical Record Example:*** Patient John Doe presents today with a 1x1x1cm, grade 3, moderately draining diabetic foot ulcer (wound 2) located on distal right foot in need of debridement. Surgical debridement was performed today on wound 2 resulting in post debridement measurements of 1.5x1.5x1.5cm. Patient's wound will be prescribed 2x2in collagen (primary) and 3x3in foam (secondary) to be used once every three (3) days for 1 month. Secured by 1" cloth tape.

**CMS Resources:**

1. Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, section 100
2. Surgical Dressings LCD, L33831: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/lcd.aspx?lcdid=33831>
3. Surgical Dressings Policy Article, A54563: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/article.aspx?articleid=54563>
4. Standard Documentation Requirements Article, A55426: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/view/article.aspx?articleid=55426>