Healogics

The power to heal

Wound Care Matters

BE PROACTIVE ABOUT NON-HEALING WOUNDS

Did you know there are nearly 7 million people in the U.S. who are living with a chronic wound? Diabetes, increased age, obesity and other factors all play a role in the growing number of chronic wound cases. It's important to seek proper care for any wound. The following tips may help:

- Perform regular foot checks an important self-care step!
- Recognize and respond to any pain and discomfort from existing wounds.
- Seek professional treatment when needed to ensure proper healing.



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Why Does Wound Care Matter?

Proper wound care matters because the longer you go without treatment, the greater your risks are. If left untreated, many chronic wounds can lead to dire outcomes, including infection, hospitalization and amputation. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increase in amputations, with many people forgoing needed care.

Healogics Wound Care Centers[®] offer world-class wound care, including specialized treatment plans that can put you on the path to faster healing. Check your hands and feet daily, and report any problem areas to your treatment team.

What Common Wounds Should You Be Mindful Of?

If you've got a wound that is struggling to heal or causing pain and discomfort, it's important to get it addressed as soon as possible. There are several possible chronic wounds:

Diabetic Foot Ulcers are often found on the feet, heels or toes of people living with diabetes, as poor circulation and nerve damage have left many with little to no feeling in or around the wound. If left untreated, the ulcer can worsen.

Arterial/Ischemic Ulcers occur when the affected area doesn't receive adequate blood flow. They are most often found on the toes, feet, heels or ankles.

Venous/Stasis Ulcers are typically found just above the ankle, resulting in leg discomfort and swelling. They often stem from poorly functioning heart valves that fail to circulate blood throughout the body, causing it to pool in the veins leading to these ulcers.

Pressure Ulcers often begin as pressure injuries but can progress into wounds in people with limited mobility, poor nutrition, obesity or urinary and/or bowel incontinence. If they remain untreated, the subcutaneous fat becomes visible and continued tissue loss leads to exposed muscle, tendon or bone.

Traumatic Injury Ulcers result from a significant injury, ultimately leading to hard-to-heal wounds for some that result in tissue loss, organ damage and poor circulation. Redness around the injury, throbbing pain, foul-smelling discharge and fever are all warning signs.

Radiation-Related Wounds stem from radiation therapies used to treat cancer but end up harming healthy tissues. Symptoms may take months or years to emerge, but the damage can slowly worsen over time, making it important to seek out proper wound care.