



Effective Health Care

Wound Care Strategies

Nomination Summary Document

Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Wound care strategies is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.
- This topic could be considered for a potential new research project within the Effective Health Care (EHC) Program.

Topic Description

Nominator: National non-governmental advisory group

Nomination Summary: The nominator is interested in the comparative effectiveness of wound care strategies including skin grafts, debridement, biological devices, etc.

Key Questions from Nominator: None

Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see <http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/c>.)
- Nonhealing wounds are often a presenting manifestation of chronic disease and are a source of pain and disability. There are many wound care strategies and interventions available to choose from; however, the scientific evidence base to properly substantiate their effectiveness is lacking. Growth factors and topical negative pressure are two examples of interventions that are being increasingly used for wound care without a robust evidence base. Potential new research on this topic would be beneficial due to the poorly reported and limited existing data on this topic. A new research project could explore general wound care strategies as well as emerging technologies such as growth factors, topical negative pressure, and silver-based dressings.