

# The Challenge of Skin Tears

## Prevention

- Reducing friction and sheering
- Using a draw sheet
- Padding bed rails & equipment edges
- Using paper tape and skin prep
- Using adhesive remover & gently rolling off tape
- Educating patients, families and staff

### Category I



**Linear** with no tissue loss or,



**Flap** with a 10% approximation

### Category II



**Scant**, not more than 25% tissue loss or,



**Large** with more than 25% loss

### Category III



**Flap completely missing**, total tissue loss

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Meuleneire F. Using a soft silicone coated net dressing to manage skin tears. J Wound Care. 11 (10):365-9, 2002 Nov.

## Treatment

- Use normal saline to rinse the wound
- Let area air dry or carefully pat dry
- Gently approximate the flap
- Use a moist, non-adherent dressing
- Place an arrow in the direction of the tear
- Document assessment & treatment



For more information visit:

[www.psa.state.pa.us](http://www.psa.state.pa.us)

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