Appendix C: Skin Tear Treatment Guidelines

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<th>Skin Tear Description</th>
<th>Treatment Guidelines</th>
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| **Category I**: Linear-type, epidermis and dermis pulled apart | **Category I:**  
  - Documentation: Activate LDA - Wound  
  - If flap is viable, reposition the flap into place utilizing a moistened Q-tip and gently cleanse wound and periwound.  
  - Apply silicone contact layer, change every 14 days and prn, cover with Kerlix. Kerlix to be changed daily for the first 2-3 days, then every 6-7 days depending on drainage.  
  - VMC only- Consult Skin and Wound Team if condition does not improve in 7 days. |

| **Category II**: Partial thickness tissue loss with 25% or less of epidermis flap loss | **Category II**: (choose one dressing)  
  - Documentation: Activate LDA - Wound  
  - If flap is viable, reposition the flap into place utilizing a moistened Q-tip and gently cleanse wound and periwound.  
  - Most patients – Foam dressing with border. Leave in place up to 7 days.  
  - Patients with infection or high risk of infection – Silver foam with border. Leave in place up to 7 days.  
  - Patients with third spacing or excessive drainage – Tegaderm Acrylic Absorbent*. Leave in place up to 7 days or change prn.  
  - VMC only - Consult Skin and Wound Team if condition does not improve in 7 days. |

| **Category III**: Complete tissue loss with flap absent | **Category III**: (choose one dressing)  
  - Documentation: Activate LDA - Wound  
  - Gently cleanse wound and periwound  
  - Most patients – Foam dressing with border. Leave in place up to 7 days.  
  - Patients with infection or high risk of infection – Silver foam with border. Leave in place up to 7 days.  
  - Patients with third spacing or excessive drainage – Tegaderm Acrylic Absorbent*. Leave in place up to 7 days or change PRN.  
  - VMC only- Consult Skin and Wound Team if condition does not improve in 7 days. |

These are guidelines only and should not replace clinical judgment.
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*Product Lawson Numbers*

- Silicone Contact Layer – Mepitel One
  - 2x3 #84870
  - 3x4 #110922
  - 4x7 #110923
- Foam – Mepilex Border
  - 3x3 #111211
  - 4x4 #84909
  - 6x6 #111212
  - 6x8 #111213
  - 4x8 #84980
- Silver Foam – Mepilex Ag Border
  - 3x3 #111537
  - 4x4 #111538
  - 6x6 #111539
  - 6x8 #111540
  - 4x8 #111541
- Acrylic Absorbant – Tegaderm Acrylic Absorbant
  - 6x6 #81194

References: