STANDARDIZED PROCEDURE

ASPIRATION OF CLOSED SEROMA OR HEMATOMA

These procedures are intended to describe procedures performed by Nurse Practitioners and/or Certified Nurse Midwives (depending on the clinical privileges granted to the individual practitioner) at UC San Diego Health.

Policy

a. Midlevel practitioner preformed closed seroma and hematoma aspiration
b. Setting – operating room, in patient unit, outpatient clinic
c. Supervision – attending physician

2. Protocol

a. Database
   i. Obtain informed consent from patient or family after explaining risks and benefits of procedure
   ii. Seroma or hematomas are common complication of skin grafting
   iii. A safe closed seroma and hematoma needle aspiration system will be performed to aspirate the fluid collections to prevent graft loss as a complication of seroma and hematoma under graft areas.

b. Action
   i. Wash hands and don protective clothing
   ii. Clean seroma or hematoma area with chlorhexidine or betadine
   iii. Perforating seroma or hematoma with an 18 or 20 gauge needle which may attach with 5-10ml syringe, depend on the size of seroma or hematoma.
   iv. Gently milk seroma or hematoma with applicator or dry gauze until the entire seroma or hematoma is evacuated
   v. May apply pressure dressing onto the seroma or hematoma areas to prevent reaccumulation.
   vi. Reexamine the areas frequently for reaccumulation of the seroma or hematoma.

c. Record keeping: procedure will be documented in surgery op note or procedure note

d. Consultation - Referral to physician or specialty clinician: conditions for which the diagnosis and or treatment are beyond the scope of the midlevel practitioner’s knowledge and or skill, or for those conditions that require consultation.
VII. RESPONSIBILITY
   Please contact the Advanced Practice Council if you need help. The administrative assistant for the Chief Nursing Officer can direct you. Call; 619-543-3438

VIII. HISTORY OF POLICY
   Revised by the Committee of Interdisciplinary Practices: 2/26/2014, 9/28/2016
   Reviewed by the Medical Staff Credentials Committee: 3/5/2014, 10/6/2016
   Approved by the Medical Staff Executive Committee: 3/20/2014, 10/7/2016