STANDARDIZED PROCEDURE

SHARP DEBRIDEMENT OF NON-VIABLE BURN INJURIES AND WOUNDS

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.

I. Policy
A. Midlevel practitioner may perform these duties under the supervising physician, perform sharp debridement of nonviable burn injuries and wound tissue with minimal blood loss and complete avoidance of loss of viable tissue.
B. Setting – Operating room, Burn outpatient clinic, burn special care, and burn intensive care unit.
C. Supervision – Attending physician.

II. Protocol
A. Data Base
1. Assess patient for condition(s) that warrant for nonviable burn injuries and wounds prior to performing sharp debridement.
2. Obtain informed consent from patient or family after explained risks and benefit of procedure.

B. Action
1. Using the appropriate sharp debridement instrumentation under direct supervision of the Attending physician.
2. The Midlevel practitioner will debride full thickness or nonviable tissue in such a manner to minimize blood loss and avoid debridement of intact viable soft tissue structures.
3. The Midlevel practitioner will provide hemostasis by means of direct pressure and fibrin spray application, suturing and electrocautery as deemed necessary.
4. The midlevel practitioner will ensure all debrided tissue is removed from burn wound bed prior to attachment of Allograft, Autograft, temporary covering or skin substitute.

C. Record Keeping – Document in the patient record
1. Document Procedure, Date and time in progress note and burn procedure area chart.

D. Consultation - Physician Consultation
1. As described in the General Policy Component.
2. 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 skills, 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 PROCEDURE
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