STANDARDIZED PROCEDURE
DERMATOME USAGE IN SKIN GRAFT HARVEST

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 may perform the preparation and usage of dermatome for skin harvesting.
B. Setting – Operating room
C. Supervision – Attending physician

II. Protocol
A. Data Base
1. Assess skin preparation area that will be the usage of dermatome skin harvesting.
   Verify the site for the absence of skin lesions and infection.
2. Avoidance of full thickness harvest is essential for appropriate harvest site healing.
3. Obtain informed consent from patient or family after explained risks and benefits of procedure.
B. Action
1. Demonstrate procedure under direct supervision of attending physician.
2. The midlevel practitioner assistant will maintain sterility of the surgical field and will adequately prepare and shave the harvest site.
3. The midlevel practitioner will inject the formulated infusate solution into the subcutaneous tissue of harvest site.
4. The midlevel practitioner will apply a thin layer of mineral oil into harvest site.
5. With the appropriate blade setting and full pneumatic pressure the midlevel practitioner will begin skin harvesting over predetermined anatomical region, will start and end harvesting skin graft with smooth and even pressure to obtain a consistent thickness.
C. Record Keeping
   Procedure will be documented in surgery dictation and burn surgical 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