


# How to Change Your Pacemaker/Defibrillator Dressing



UHN

Step 1	<p>Prepare the things you need for your dressing change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 pack of 4X4 gauze</li> <li>• 3 chlorhexidine swabs</li> <li>• a roll of tape</li> </ul> <p>You received these supplies from the hospital.</p>
Step 2	<p>Wash your hands for 30 seconds with soap and water, then pat dry.</p>
Step 3	<p>Remove your old dressing. Check your incision site in front of the mirror.</p> 
Step 4	<p><b>Call your doctor</b> if you have any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• redness</li> <li>• swelling</li> <li>• drainage (excessive blood or pus) from the incision site</li> <li>• fever &gt;38°C.</li> </ul>
Step 5	<p>Wash your hands again with soap and water; then pat dry.</p>

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Step 6	Use the 1st chlorhexidine swab to clean along the incision. Use one side first and then repeat this using the other side of the swab. Throw away the 1st swab.	
Step 7	Use the 2nd swab to clean <b>above</b> your incision. Use the other side of the 2nd swab to clean above your incision again if necessary (if it does not look clean yet). Throw away the 2nd swab.	
Step 8	Use the 3rd swab to clean <b>below</b> your incision. Use the other side of the 3rd swab to clean below your incision again if necessary (if it does not look clean yet). Throw away the 3rd swab.	
Step 9	Fold the 4X4 gauze in half. Cover your incision with the folded gauze. Tape the gauze to your skin.	