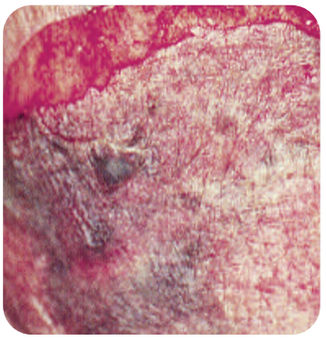
Skin Tear Pathway

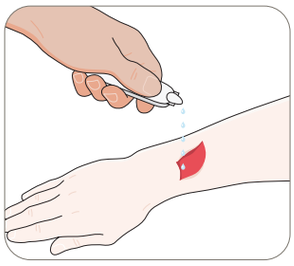
Skin at risk	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
			
Skin at risk Mature skin is more vulnerable and prone to skin tears.	**No skin loss** Linear or flap tear that can be repositioned to cover wound bed.	**Partial flap loss** Partial flap loss that cannot be repositioned to cover the wound bed.	**Total flap loss** Total flap loss exposing entire wound bed.

Recommended Products

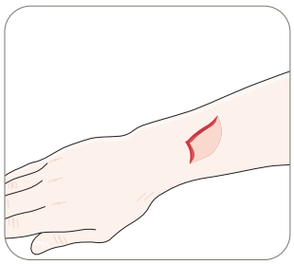
Emollient	**Mepilex**® Border Comfort	**Mepilex**® Border Comfort	**Mepilex**® Border Comfort
			

For any skin tears that are unsuitable for an adhesive dressing use Mepitel One with a wound pad and retention bandaging / yellow line / blue line

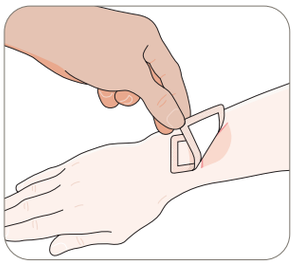
Application Guide



1. Gently cleanse and/or debride the wound according to local protocol.



2. If able reapproximate wound edges, classify wound measure and document

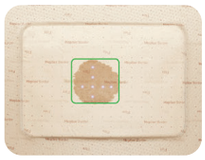


3 Apply the Mepilex Border Dressing directly to the skin tear. Draw an arrow in the direction the dressing should be removed so the skin flap is not pulled back again on removal . Date the dressing with the day it was applied. Mepilex Border can be left in place for up to 7 days.

When to change Mepilex Border Comfort



The Exudate Progress Monitor is a grid of equidistant dots.



e.g. 4 x 4cm
As exudate spreads you can record a dot count that reflects exudate volume in the dressing.



e.g. 8 x 10cm
You can then refer to the recorded dot count to help monitor exudate trends.



e.g. 10 x 14cm
Consider dressing change when exudate is approaching the borders of the dressing.*

NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board

Find out more at www.molnlycke.co.uk

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How to dress a new skin tear

How to video

Open dressing pack, put on apron, open suitable sized Mepilex Border Comfort dressing and saline

Is wound actively bleeding? If yes, apply gentle pressure with gauze until this stops

It is sometimes possible to move the skin flap back into place, this can be done with a saline moistened gloved finger. (do not worry if this is not possible)

Cleanse surrounding skin if any blood remains

Apply the Mepilex Border Comfort dressing directly to the skin tear

Draw an arrow in the direction the dressing should be removed so the skin flap is not pulled back again. Date the dressing with day applied.

This video has been taken from the West Suffolk Foundation Trusts interim dressing kit as a resource.

NHS
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Integrated Care Board

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