

Cambridge English for Nursing

GLOSSARY

UNIT 3 Wound care

Medical term		Definition	Translation
cellulitis		infection of the tissue just below the skin	
debridement		removal of dead tissue from wounds	
desiccation		excessive loss of moisture leading to drying out of tissue	
eschar		a hard crust or scab	
exudate		an fluid which comes out of a wound because of infection or inflammation, also called <i>ooze</i>	
granulated		new, healed tissue	
haemoserous		blood-tinged serous (see definition below) fluid	
hydrate		to supply water in order to restore or maintain fluid balance	
maceration		softening by soaking in a fluid	
necrosis		tissue death	
PVD		peripheral vascular disease; a group of diseases in which blood vessels become constricted or blocked, also called <i>Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)</i>	
puncture wound		a wound caused by an object piercing the skin	
purulent		containing pus	
pus		yellowish or greenish fluid formed when tissues are inflamed or infected	
script		abbreviation of <i>prescription</i>	
serous		thin and watery	
skin graft		a piece of skin removed from one part of the body and implanted on the site of a wound which has not healed	
slough		dead outer skin which sheds off living tissue	
suture		surgical stitches which join together the edges of wounds	
swab		an implement which contains a small piece of cotton and is used to collect a specimen e.g. a wound specimen	
tetanus		a central nervous system disease which causes severe muscle contractions	
ulcer		an open sore on the surface of the skin or a mucous membrane	
VAC		Vacuum Assisted Closure; a device which uses negative pressure to clean and drain the wound bed	
venous ulcer		an open skin wound caused by poor blood circulation	
well-vascularised		having a good blood supply	