

WOUND CARE

It is recommended you contact the Veterinary Help Line when treating a wound for a follow-up care.

1. Check it daily

Check the wound daily if it is small (less than 5 centimeters), does not seem to bother the animal and is not infected. It is abnormal if you notice:

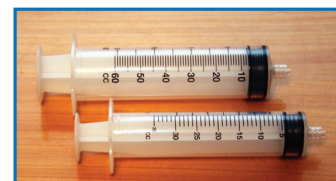
- Redness;
- Swelling;
- Pain;
- Pus;
- Warmth.

If you notice one of these signs, it is indicated that you do **hydrotherapy**.

2. Hydrotherapy

You should do hydrotherapy if the wound is small but does not seem to heal well or if you notice redness, swelling, pain, pus or warmth.

With a watering can, a garden house, or a 30 or 60-millilitre syringe, pour water on the wound for 10 minutes once to twice a day until it starts to heal.



3. Sugar bandage



Always contact the Veterinary Help Line before making a sugar bandage. You will be asked to send a picture of the wound in order to let a veterinarian assess whether or not the use of the sugar bandage is indicated for the wound. If the use of the sugar bandage is indicated, you will be asked to send more pictures of the wound as it is healing. This will allow a veterinarian to determine whether or not the wound is healing properly and if the animal needs antibiotics.



Use the sugar bandage when a wound is big, deep or infected. The dog must be kept under supervision or an Elizabethan collar put around its neck.

1. Wash your hands with soap and water or put on latex gloves;
2. Cut the hair around the edges of the wound with scissors;
3. Clean the wound with water and chlorhexidine soap;
4. Blot it dry;



5. Apply a generous amount of sugar on the wound to cover it completely;

6. Place a telfa pad on the wound and secure in place with rolled gauze and elastic bandage;



To ensure not to apply the elastic bandage too tight around the limb/body part, unroll it completely prior to use and roll it up loosely back onto the roll.





7. If necessary, secure the bandage in place with Elastoplast.
Apply it above and below the bandage.



The bandage should be removed, the wound cleaned and bandaged again daily. Before changing the bandage, always put on latex gloves or wash your hands with soap and water, clean the wound with water, blot it dry and apply the new bandage over the wound following the steps detailed above.



The animal should be kept at complete rest until the wound heals.

Stop putting sugar on the wound when it starts healing as shown on the pictures below but keep bandaging it until it is healed.



Contact the Veterinary Help Line to seek free veterinary advice at 514 345-8521 ext. 0065 or nunavik@chuv.umontreal.ca