UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Assesstment and Treatment of Surgical Wounds and Chronic Skin Ulcers

2526-2-I0101D153

Aims

The elective course “Assessment and treatment of surgical wounds and chronic skin ulcers” aims to provide students with the necessary skills for advanced, evidence-based management of skin wounds. The objective is to prepare future professionals capable of dealing accurately and independently with the assessment and treatment of surgical wounds and chronic skin ulcers.
The specific objectives, formulated according to the Dublin Descriptors, are as follows:

1. Knowledge and understanding:
   Knowledge of wound healing processes, wound characteristics and associated complications, including advanced wound care.
2. Application of knowledge:
   Assess wounds and ulcers correctly, choose and apply the most appropriate treatment according to available evidence.
3. Autonomy of judgement:
   Critically analyse the wound condition and decide on the most effective course of care.
4. Communication skills:
   Communicate clearly with patients and colleagues, documenting and sharing treatment strategies.
5. Learning skills:
   Update independently on techniques, materials and innovations in skin wound management.

Contents

A wound is a continuous solution of one or more tissues of the body and is defined according to the manner in which it is determined and the time of healing. The main types of wounds, classified according to the healing time, are acute wounds and chronic wounds: acute wounds are mainly represented by surgical wounds, while chronic

skin ulcers are represented by all skin lesions that do not reach the state of tissue repair within a certain time.
Surgical wounds are a frequent occurrence in clinical practice, and most of them heal without complications. However, we must also consider the problem of chronic skin ulcers, which in many cases delay repair and create the conditions for repeated hospitalization and have a huge impact on the quality of life, the social sphere of patients and the social and health costs.
The extent of complications in healing acute and/or chronic wounds is relevant both to the number of patients involved and to the time and resources needed to treat the problem.

Detailed program

History of acute and chronic injuries, epidemiology and health costs
Definition of surgical wound
Definition and pathophysiology of chronic skin lesions
Healing modalities of surgical wound and chronic ulcers
Evaluation and treatment of uncomplicated surgical wound
Assessment of chronic injuries
Advanced wound dressings and chronic ulcers
Early and late complications of surgical wound
Treatment of surgical wounds and chronic injuries, whether or not infected
Treatment of chronic skin ulcers according to Wound Bed Preparation (WBP)
Clinical cases with small group work

Prerequisites

Enrolling in the 2nd-3rd year of the Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing

Teaching form

Face-to-face teaching – frontal lectures and tutorials

Textbook and teaching resource

Bonadeo P, Marazzi M, Masina M, Ricci E, Romanelli M, Wound Bed Praparation: evoluzione della pratica clinica secondo i principi del TIME. 2004, Aretrè.
Caula C, Apostoli A, Cura e assistenza al paziente con ferite acute e ulcere croniche. 2011, Maggioli Editore.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "Surgical Site Infection Criteria". (CDC, 1999. Ultimo aggiornamento 2017) [Documento di consenso WUWHS - 2016]
European Wound Management Association (EWMA). Position Document. Wound Bed Preparation in Practice. London: MEP Ltd, 2004.
European Wound Management Association (EWMA). Position Document: Identifying criteria for wound infection. London: MEP Ltd, 2005.
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); (2020) Surgical site infections: prevention and treatment NICE Guideline, No. 125. London.

Organizzazione Mondiale della Sanità (OMS) (2017) Linee guida globali per la prevenzione delle infezioni del sito chirurgico. Collegio Provinciale IP.AS.VI. di Torino. Traduzione italiana delle Global Guidelines for the Prevention of Surgical Site Infection. (WHO)
World Union of Wound Healing Societies (WUWHS) (2016) Documento di Consenso: Gestione delle incisioni chirurgiche chiuse: comprendere il ruolo della terapia a pressione negativa per le ferite [NPWT]. Wounds International.

Semester

Second semester

Assessment method

Frequency

Office hours

By appointment

Sustainable Development Goals

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING