

Wound Care Instructions Using Gelfoam® (After Skin Surgery)

What is Gelfoam®?

Gelfoam[®] is a material used in open wounds to stop and prevent bleeding. It has been applied directly into the wound to help the blood to form a clot. The pressure bandage was placed over the Gelfoam[®] to keep it in place and to help prevent more bleeding. Gelfoam[®] will eventually dissolve or fall off. **Do not** try to remove it yourself, because it is usually attached to the wound. Removing Gelfoam[®] before it dissolves or falls off may cause the wound to bleed. Please continue with your wound care as directed, even with Gelfoam[®] present.

Disclaimer: This document contains information and/or instructional materials developed by the University of Michigan Health System (UMHS) for the typical patient with your condition. It may include links to online content that was not created by UMHS and for which UMHS does not assume responsibility. It does not replace medical advice from your health care provider because your experience may differ from that of the typical patient. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions about this document, your condition or your treatment plan.

Patient Education by <u>University of Michigan Health System</u> is licensed under a <u>Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License</u>. Last Revised 07/2016