

### **Skin and Wound Dressing in Radiation Oncology**

**Policy:**

To provide guidelines to ensure the skin and wound dressing is managed accurately when cleaning and dressing the skin during and post radiation therapy to manage skin reactions.

**Procedure:**

1. The Radiation Oncologist must have written prescription for the wound dressing.
2. Using an aseptic technique, the Radiation Oncology Nurse will apply the following skin care items on the patient at the request of the physician:

Bacitracin (in Diebold)

Hydrocortisone Cream 1% (in Diebold)

Xeroform Dressing 1x8 and 5x9 (purchased from CMS)

Radiagel Hydrogel Wound Dressing (locked in Radiation Oncology)

3. After tube of Radiagel is opened, the remainder of tube will be given to the patient. The following instructions will be given by the nurse on how to administer it to skin:
  - a. Allow warm, soapy water to run over skin. Blot skin dry (Do not rub). Apply a 1/8 to 1/4 inch layer of Radiagel Hydrogel Wound Dressing to cover entire wound surface 2 times/day **after** you have received your radiation treatment for the day. Do not cover with secondary cover dressing unless directed by the radiation oncologist.
4. Nurse will document any medication administered on Downtime Medication Administration Record S/N 1287, and charge Radiagel code on billing sheet.