

WOUND TREATMENT

Official monthly newsletter from Dr. Tendani Muthambi

What is wound treatment?

Wound treatment is a process in which a wound is treated from the inside out mainly from infection or a foreign body so that it can heal through natural processes. It includes cleaning of the infected part with antiseptics, removal of dead tissue surgically if required, stitching of wounds/incisions.

What is a wound?

A wound is a break in the skin and/or underlying tissue caused by physical trauma, disease or medical treatment. Wound healing requires a complex series of steps that restores the integrity of the epidermis and dermis. It is a highly coordinated biological process involving many different cell types as well as soluble factors released from those cells.

There are two types of wounds?

- Open wounds: a break in the skin that leaves the internal tissue exposed.
- Closed wounds: The tissue damage and bleeding occur under the surface of the skin.

*The latest on
this month's
issue:*

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Causes of a Lipoma

Lipoma is inherited (passed down through families). You're more likely to develop a lipoma if someone in your family has one.

Some conditions cause multiple lipomas to form on the body. Lipoma-causing conditions include:

- Dercum's disease
- Gardners syndrome
- Hereditary Multiple Lipomatosis
- Madelung's disease

When to see a doctor? If your lipoma starts to grow rapidly and you are experiencing pain please come and see me.

Diagnosis and tests

Lipoma can be diagnosed during a physical exam. The doctor touches the lipoma and asks if it is tender or painful. You may need a biopsy to make sure the lipoma is not cancerous. During this procedure, your doctor will take a sample of the lipoma and send it to a laboratory for testing.

Lipomas can often be mistaken for cysts. To see a clear picture of this tumour, your doctor may order an imaging test such as ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), or computed tomography (CT). These imaging tests will help your doctor determine if it is a lipoma or a cyst. These tests can also help determine the location of the lipoma, its depth, the presence of blood vessels, and whether it is putting pressure on nerves or other tissues.

Treatment for lipoma

Most lipomas don't need treatment. If a lipoma is bothering you, your General Surgeon can remove it surgically. Lipoma removal procedures are safe and effective, and you can usually go home the same day.

As an alternative to lipoma surgery, your provider may recommend liposuction to remove the lipoma. A treatment option that is suitable will be discussed in detail with you before the procedure.

Treatment options will be discussed with you, prior to the removal of the Lipoma.

Symptoms, causes, diagnosis, tests and treatment options will be discussed in detail on my social media platforms. Follow me on LinkedIn and Facebook.

Signed Dr. J Muthambi