

Solutions for Adhesive Skin Closure,
Dressing and Device Securement

3M™ Surgical Tapes



3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closures



*Latex free, hypoallergenic
family of tapes and
adhesive skin closures*



3M Health Care has supplied health care providers with the finest in skin health care for over 40 years. Our full line of hypoallergenic and latex-free surgical tapes and adhesive skin closures continue to set the standard. And, our support programs are designed to help ensure clinicians deliver the best in skin health for their patients.*

Our products are:

Safe as demonstrated by:

- Human Cumulative Irritation Patch Testing
- Human Repeat Insult Patch Testing

Effective as demonstrated by:

- Extensive testing on human volunteers
- Product evaluations in clinical settings

3M™ Pressure Sensitive Adhesives

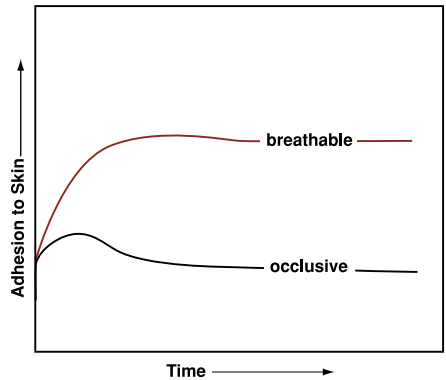
All 3M™ Surgical Tapes and Adhesive Skin Closures feature adhesives that are:

- Hypoallergenic*
- Free of natural rubber latex
- Pressure sensitive (adhere with only finger or hand pressure)
- Designed to be as gentle as possible yet deliver the desired performance

In general, tape adhesion builds over time, with the fastest rate of increase during the first 24 hours.

Use this booklet and educational materials to guide your selection of tape and skin closure products to give the desired result: the safe, effective securement of devices and dressings, or closure of low-tension wounds with minimal risk of skin damage.

General Adhesion Curve



*3M™ Steri-Strip™ Antimicrobial Skin Closures are not hypoallergenic.



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3M™ Surgical Tapes enable health care professionals to provide better patient care by choosing the right tape for the exact performance qualities needed. Our full range of tapes include paper, silk, soft cloth, plastic, foam and cloth adhesive tapes. Each tape has backing and adhesive characteristics for your specific taping technique and situation.

Our tapes are easy-to-use, economical, latex free and hypoallergenic; they are perfect for securing dressings, tubing, catheters and other devices.

3M surgical tapes are supported by educational services, professional and technical support, in addition to ongoing research. As health care delivery becomes more complex, choosing the right product for an application and using it in the most effective manner is a critical component of successful patient outcomes and cost containment.



3M™ Transpore™ White Surgical Tape

Gentle tape with strong adhesion and easy, bi-directional tear for dressing applications.



Chest incision dressing



Abdominal incision dressing



Finger splint



Features and benefits

- Gentle to skin
- Easy, straight bi-directional tear
- Good initial and long-term (72 hours) adhesion
- Holds well on damp or dry skin
- Sticks well to itself (overtaping)
- Easy to handle with gloves
- Minimal edge lift during wear
- Breathable to maintain skin integrity
- Hypoallergenic and latex free
- Water-resistant

Suggested applications

- Securing dressings to damp or dry skin
- Taping fragile, at-risk skin
- When repeated taping is needed
- Anchoring tubing and devices
- When tape width must be customized

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Transpore™ White Surgical Tape				
1534-0	8333-1534-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
1534-1	8333-1534-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
1534-2	8333-1534-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
1534-3	8333-1534-03	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	4	10
3M Consumer Products				
Nexcare™ Paper Plus First Aid Tape				
721		1 in. x 10 yd.	24	6

3M™ Medipore™ Soft Cloth Surgical Tape

Soft, gentle, conformable tape and pre-cut pad products that are easy-to-use and easy on the skin.



Perforated—easy to tear



Epidural tubing



Auxiliary abscess dressing

Features and benefits

- Easy-tear perforated rolls
- Gentle, breathable to maintain skin integrity
- Excellent cross and diagonal stretch
- Easy to handle—no curling or self-adhesion
- No paper liner on roll tapes
- Hypoallergenic and latex free
- Water-resistant

Suggested applications

- Securing dressings and ostomy pouches to fragile skin
- When repeated taping is needed
- Anchoring post-surgical dressings
- Used as retentive sheeting over gauze
- Securing over areas where skin may stretch (e.g., edema, distention, hematoma formation or movement)

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Medipore™ Soft Cloth Surgical Tape				
2961	8333-2961-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	24	1
2962	8333-2962-01	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2963	8333-2963-01	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2964	8333-2964-01	4 in. x 10 yd./10 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2966	8333-2966-01	6 in. x 10 yd./15 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2968	8333-2968-01	8 in. x 10 yd./20 cm x 9,14 m	6	1
2962S	8333-2962-03	2 in. x 2 yd./5,0 cm x 1,8 m	48	1
2964S	8333-2964-03	4 in. x 2 yd./10,1 cm x 1,8 m	24	1
2966S	8333-2966-03	6 in. x 2 yd./15,2 cm x 1,8 m	16	1

3M™ Medipore™ Pre-cut Dressing Covers				
2954	8333-2954-01	3-7/8 in. x 4-5/8 in./10 cm x 12 cm	25	4
2956	8333-2956-01	5-7/8 in. x 5-7/8 in./15 cm x 15 cm	25	4
2957	8333-2957-01	5-7/8 in. x 11 in./15 cm x 28 cm	25	4
2958	8333-2958-01	7-7/8 in. x 11 in./20 cm x 28 cm	25	4

3M™ Medipore™ H Soft Cloth Surgical Tape

The same soft, conformable tape as standard Medipore tape, but with increased gentleness and stronger adhesion for more challenging applications.



Bunionectomy dressing



Sacral dressing

Features and benefits

Same features and benefits as Medipore Tape plus:

- Gentler
- Higher adhesion
- More breathable
- Water-resistant



Hip dressing

Suggested applications

- When repeated taping is needed
- Securing over areas where skin may stretch (e.g., edema, distention, hematoma formation or movement)

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Medipore™ H Soft Cloth Surgical Tape				
2861	8333-2861-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	24	1
2862	8333-2862-01	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2863	8333-2863-01	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2864	8333-2864-01	4 in. x 10 yd./10 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2866	8333-2866-01	6 in. x 10 yd./15 cm x 9,14 m	12	1
2868	8333-2868-01	8 in. x 10 yd./20 cm x 9,14 m	6	1
2862S	8333-2862-03	2 in. x 2 yd./5,0 cm x 1,8 m	48	1
2864S	8333-2864-03	4 in. x 2 yd./10 cm x 1,8 m	24	1
2866S	8333-2866-03	6 in. x 2 yd./15 cm x 1,8 m	16	1

3M Consumer Products

Nexcare™ Cloth Plus First Aid Tape

751		1 in. x 6 yd.	24	6
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3M™ Micropore™ Surgical Tape

Gentle, breathable, #1 trusted brand for over 40 years.



Jackson-Pratt and tubing



Ostomy pouch



Post-op eye dressing



Features and benefits

- Gentle to skin
- Porous
- Highly breathable to maintain skin integrity
- Holds well on damp skin
- Conformable
- Hypoallergenic and latex free

Suggested applications

- Securing small to medium dressings especially on damp skin
- Securing lightweight tubing
- Securing ostomy pouches
- Taping fragile, at-risk skin
- When repeated taping is needed

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Micropore™ Surgical Tape				
Standard:				
1530-0	8333-1530-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
1530-1	8333-1530-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
1530-2	8333-1530-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
1530-3	8333-1530-03	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	4	10
Single Use:				
1530S-1	8333-1530-11	1 in. x 1-1/2 yd./2,5 cm x 1,37 m	100	5
1530S-2	8333-1530-12	2 in. x 1-1/2 yd./5,0 cm x 1,37 m	50	5
Tan:				
1533-0	8333-1533-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
1533-1	8333-1533-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
1533-2	8333-1533-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
Dispenser Pack:				
1535-0	8333-1535-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
1535-1	8333-1535-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
1535-2	8333-1535-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
1535-3	8333-1535-03	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	4	10
3M Consumer Products				
Nexcare™ Paper First Aid Tape				
530-P1/2	8333-0530-00	1/2 in. x 360 in.	24	3
530-P1	8333-0530-01	1 in. x 360 in.	12	3
530-P2	8333-0530-02	2 in. x 360 in.	6	4

3M™ Transpore™ Surgical Tape

Transparent, perforated plastic tape that tears easily, works reliably.



Easy to tear, even with gloves



Peripheral IV tubing



Eye shield

Features and benefits

- Easy, straight, bi-directional tear
- Allows clinician to tailor the tape for various dressings and devices
- Porous
- Easy to handle with gloves
- Good adhesion to skin and tubing
- Transparent
- Hypoallergenic and latex free
- Water-resistant

Suggested applications

- Securing tubing and devices (e.g., catheters, IV tubing)
- Anchoring bulky dressings
- When tape width must be customized

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Transpore™ Surgical Tape				
1527-0	8333-1527-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
1527-1	8333-1527-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
1527-2	8333-1527-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
1527-3	8333-1527-03	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	4	10
1527S-1	8333-1527-11	1 in. x 1-1/2 yd./2,5 cm x 1,37 m	100	5
1527S-2	8333-1527-12	2 in. x 1-1/2 yd./5,0 cm x 1,37 m	50	5
3M Consumer Products				
Nexcare™ Clear First Aid Tape				
527-P1	8333-0527-01	1 in. x 360 in.	12	3
527-P2	8333-0527-02	2 in. x 360 in.	6	4

3M™ Durapore™ Surgical Tape

Silk-like cloth tape with strong adhesion that won't let you down.



Catheters



Armboard



Butterfly splint



Features and benefits

- High strength
- Adheres well to dry skin
- Conformable
- Convenient bi-directional tear
- Versatile
- Hypoallergenic and latex free
- Water-resistant

Suggested applications

- Securing tubing and devices
- Anchoring bulky dressings
- Immobilizing fingers & toes
- Stabilizing finger splints

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Durapore™ Surgical Tape				
1538-0	8333-1538-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
1538-1	8333-1538-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
1538-2	8333-1538-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
1538-3	8333-1538-03	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	4	10
1538S-1	8333-1538-11	1 in. x 1-1/2 yd./2,5 cm x 1,37 m	100	5
1538S-2	8333-1538-12	2 in. x 1-1/2 yd./5,0 cm x 1,37 m	50	5
3M Consumer Products				
Nexcare™ Cloth First Aid Tape				
538-P1	8333-0538-01	1 in. x 360 in.	12	3
538-P2	8333-0538-02	2 in. x 360 in.	6	4

3M™ Cloth Adhesive Tape

Strong, easy-to-tear tape for securing medical devices and for light immobilization support.



NG tube



ET tube

Features and benefits

- Strong backing
- High initial adhesion
- Economical and easy-to-use
- Less residue
- Good restick
- Tears easily crosswise and lengthwise
- Hypoallergenic and latex free



Immobilization

Suggested applications

- Securing tubing
- Positioning body parts
- Immobilizing fingers and toes
- Stabilizing finger splints

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Cloth Adhesive Tape				
2950-0	8333-2950-00	1/2 in. x 10 yd./1,25 cm x 9,14 m	24	10
2950-1	8333-2950-01	1 in. x 10 yd./2,5 cm x 9,14 m	12	10
2950-2	8333-2950-02	2 in. x 10 yd./5,0 cm x 9,14 m	6	10
2950-3	8333-2950-03	3 in. x 10 yd./7,5 cm x 9,14 m	4	10

3M™ Microfoam™ Surgical Tape

3M™ Microfoam™ Sterile Tape Patch

Highly conformable, elastic foam tape that stretches for compression applications or securing dressings on challenging areas.



Hip dressing



Rotator cuff dressing



Mastectomy dressing

As with all tapes, Microfoam tape should not be stretched over exposed skin. Microfoam tape may be stretched over dressings or bandages to provide compression.

See page 21 for proper application.



Features and benefits

- Multi-direction stretch to accommodate swelling and promote comfort
- Conforms readily
- Gentle, secure adhesion to irregularly contoured sites
- Water-resistant
- Hypoallergenic and latex free

Suggested applications

- Securing dressings on sites where movement is likely such as over joints and other challenging areas
- Securing compression dressings to assist in hemostasis or control edema (e.g., cardiovascular/angio sites, breast biopsies, orthopedic, thoracic and abdominal surgical dressings)
- Provides cushioning as needed

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Microfoam™ Surgical Tape				
1528-1	8333-1528-01	1 in. x 5-1/2 yd./2,5 cm x 5 m*	12	6
1528-2	8333-1528-02	2 in. x 5-1/2 yd./5,0 cm x 5 m*	6	6
1528-3	8333-1528-03	3 in. x 5-1/2 yd./7,5 cm x 5 m*	4	6
1528-4	8333-1528-04	4 in. x 5-1/2 yd./10,1 cm x 5 m*	3	6
3M™ Microfoam™ Surgical Tape Patch				
1562	8333-1562-01	5-1/5 in. x 7 in./106 mm x 177 mm	25	4

3M™ Blenderm™ Surgical Tape

Occlusive, transparent plastic tape that protects from external fluids and contaminants.



Occlusive dressing



Patch testing



Features and benefits


- Transparent
- Waterproof barrier
- Flexible
- Hypoallergenic and latex free

Suggested applications

- Protecting dressings from external moisture, fluids and contaminants
- Enhancing penetration of topical medications
- Dermatological patch testing

Ordering Information

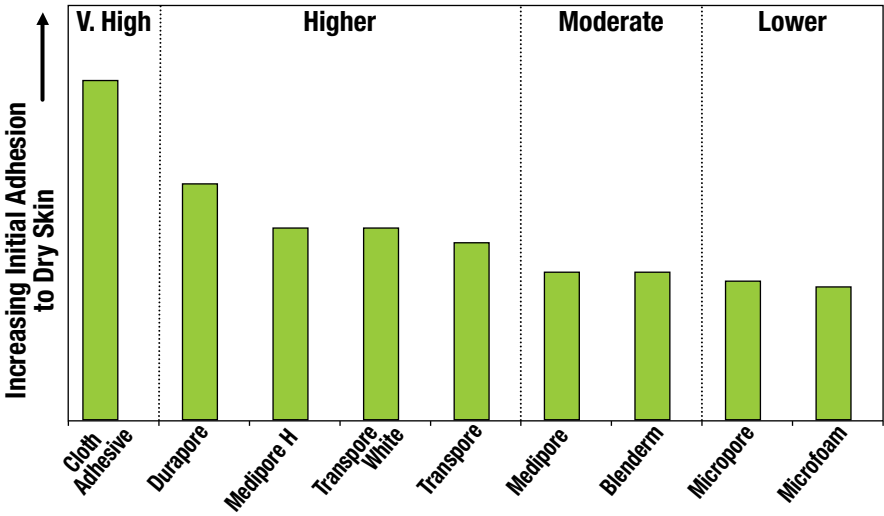
Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Rolls/Box	Boxes/Case
3M™ Blenderm™ Surgical Tape				
1525-0	8333-1525-00	1/2 in. x 5 yd./1,25 cm x 4,5 m	24	10
1525-1	8333-1525-01	1 in. x 5 yd./2,5 cm x 4,5 m	12	10
1525-2	8333-1525-02	2 in. x 5 yd./5,0 cm x 4,5 m	6	10



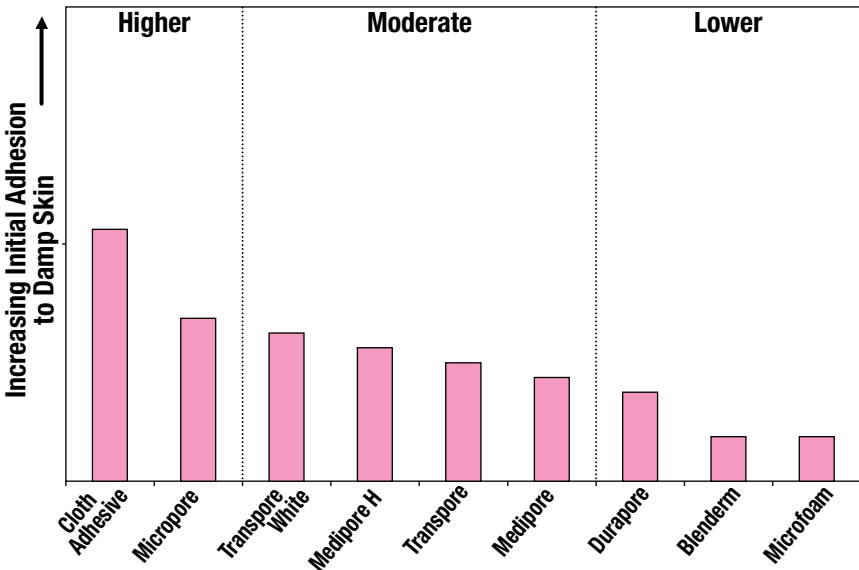
Using Tape Effectively

Information Summary

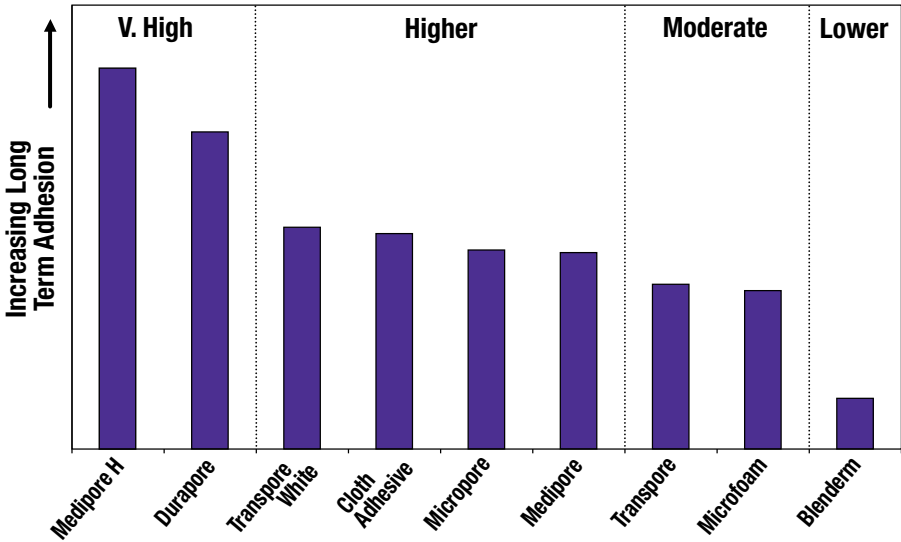
Average initial adhesion to dry skin



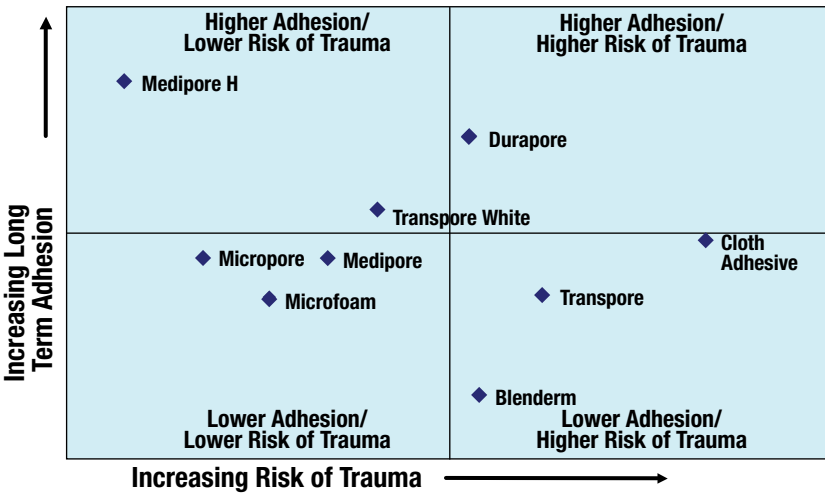
Average initial adhesion to damp skin



Average long term adhesion to dry skin (48 hrs.)



Relationship between adhesion and risk of skin trauma



Considerations in Choosing A Tape For Tube Or Dressing Secural

I. Degree of importance of tube or dressing

- The more critical the tubing/dressing, the higher the adhesion required.
- Strength of adhesion and backing may be more important than gentleness.
- Gentle tapes with higher adhesion may be used without increasing the risk of skin trauma if properly applied and removed.
- Some tapes are less gentle (e.g. 3M™ Durapore™ Tape and 3M™ Cloth Adhesive Tape) but are used for:
 - high initial adhesion
 - high long-term adhesion
 - high strength of backing

II. Surface characteristics

Skin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry • Damp • Diaphoretic • Wet: secretions, leaking tubes • Weeping • Macerated • Oily • Hairy • Edematous • Intact vs. impaired skin integrity • Elastic vs. non-elastic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragile skin (elderly, very young) • “At-risk” (e.g., patient on systemic corticosteroids, chemotherapy; malnourished) • Flexing Dressing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material • Weight • Conformability Device <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contour • Weight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material: metal, plastic, other Tubing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diameter: small, large • Texture: smooth, ribbed, other • Material: PVC, silicone, other • Weight • Length • Potential for drag or pull • Other support (e.g., sutures, tunneling)
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- Heavy tubings require higher adhesion.
- Bulky dressings require high conformability and may require greater adhesion.
- Individual results may vary.

III. Activity level of patient

The more active the patient, the higher the adhesion required.

IV. Potential for skin surface distention or movement

The risk of skin damage may be reduced by using tapes that stretch with skin distention or movement.

V. Anticipated wear time

Tape adhesion generally builds over time. Occlusive plastic tapes promote moisture build up. They are best used short term since adhesion decreases over time. Breathable tapes should be used for longer term wear.

VI. History and current medical conditions (e.g., allergies/sensitivities to medical adhesives, medications, medical conditions)

Overview of the 3M™ Surgical Tapes

	Lower Adhesion	Moderate Adhesion	Higher Adhesion	Very High Adhesion
Dry Skin	<i>Microfoam</i> <i>Micropore</i>	<i>Medipore</i> Blenderm	Durapore <i>Medipore H</i> Transpore White Transpore	Cloth Adhesive
Damp Skin	Durapore Blenderm <i>Microfoam</i>	Transpore White <i>Medipore H</i> Transpore <i>Medipore</i>	Cloth Adhesive <i>Micropore</i>	

Key: Tapes that stretch, Very gentle tapes, Gentle tapes

3M™ Surgical Tapes

Table A When you need a tape that stretches (e.g., anticipate edema, distention, hematoma formation or movement; compression)

	Lower Adhesion	Moderate Adhesion	Higher Adhesion
Dry Skin	<i>Microfoam</i>	<i>Medipore</i>	<i>Medipore H</i>
Damp Skin	<i>Microfoam</i>	<i>Medipore H</i> <i>Medipore</i>	

Table B General securl when stretch is not needed

	Lower Adhesion	Moderate Adhesion	Higher Adhesion	Very High Adhesion
Dry Skin	<i>Micropore</i>	Blenderm	Durapore <i>Transpore White</i> Transpore	Cloth Adhesive
Damp Skin	Durapore Blenderm	<i>Transpore White</i> Transpore	<i>Micropore</i> Cloth Adhesive	

“Stretchable” tape such as: Medipore, Medipore H, and Microfoam tapes may also be used for general securl (see Table A).

Table C High risk or delicate skin

	Lower Adhesion	Moderate Adhesion	Higher Adhesion
Dry Skin	<i>Microfoam</i> <i>Micropore</i>	<i>Medipore</i>	<i>Medipore H</i> <i>Transpore White</i>
Damp Skin	<i>Microfoam</i>	<i>Transpore White</i> <i>Medipore H</i> <i>Medipore</i>	<i>Micropore</i>

For critical tubings/dressings, strength of adhesion and backing may be more important than gentleness. (See pages 36-37 for ways to reduce the risk of superficial skin damage.)

KEY:

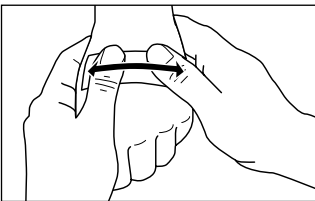
Italicized type = Tapes that stretch

Pink type = Very gentle tapes

Blue type = Gentle tapes

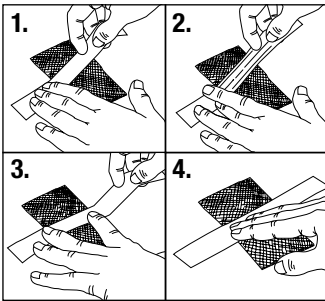
Tape Application

1. Select the correct size and type of tape for the application.
2. Clip hair, if necessary.
3. Apply 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film to protect at-risk skin.
When thoroughly dry, tape may be applied over it.
4. Minimize touching of adhesive.
5. Apply tape without tension to clean, dry skin.
6. Smooth tape in place with smooth, gentle pressure. Avoid gaps and wrinkles.
In general, do not encircle a limb completely with tape.
7. Rub in place to get a good seal.



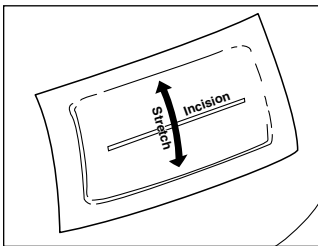
A. General taping

Apply the tape without tension, gently but firmly stroking the surface to maximize adhesion. Tape should extend at least one-half inch beyond the dressing. Tape should not be pulled or stretched when applied. If swelling does occur, loosen and re-fasten or replace tape to relieve the tension.



B. When compression is needed

1. Place first section of tape without tension onto skin on one side of the dressing, gently pressing downward.
2. With one hand, secure tape on one edge of the dressing while slightly stretching next section of tape over the dressing.
3. Secure tape on opposite edge of the dressing.
4. Press remaining tape onto skin without tension.
Compression should come from the multiple layers of dressing material, not from excessive tension in the tape. Skin distention under tape may result in blistering and should be relieved as soon as possible.

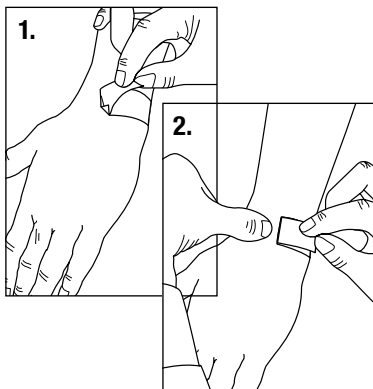


C. When distention is anticipated

Use a tape that stretches or a self-adherent wrap to secure the dressing or tubing. Foam tapes generally stretch in all directions. Nonwoven soft cloth tapes, such as 3M™ Medipore™ Soft Cloth Surgical Tape, stretch in the cross-direction and on the bias. The direction of the stretch should be considered when securing a dressing or tubing to an area that is at high risk for distention, edema, hematoma formation, or movement. Anecdotally, applying soft cloth tape parallel to the incision appears to be associated with fewer skin tension injuries than taping perpendicular to the incision.

Tape and Transparent Dressing Removal

Proper tape removal is critical in reducing the occurrence of traumatic skin injuries.



A. Tape strips.

1. Loosen edges of tape. If necessary, press a small piece of tape onto a corner to start an edge of the tape.
2. Stabilize the skin with one finger. Remove tape “low and slow” in direction of hair growth, keeping it close to skin surface and pulled back over itself. Removing tape at an angle will pull at the epidermis increasing risk of mechanical trauma. As tape is removed, continue supporting newly exposed skin.
3. For tape that is strongly adhered to skin or hair, you may consider using a medical grade adhesive remover or moisturizer to soften the adhesive along the peel line (peel edge).

B. 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Dressing.

Stretch method

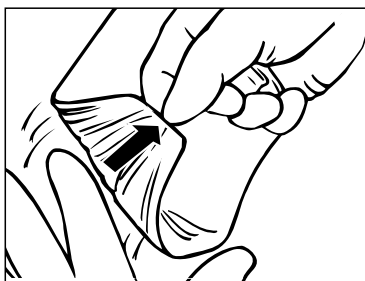
- Grasp one edge or catch a “corner” of the Tegaderm dressing with a piece of tape.
- Gently lift edge.
- With other hand, place fingers on top of dressing to support skin.
- Gently stretch the Tegaderm dressing straight out and parallel to skin. This will release the adhesion of the dressing to the skin.

As the Tegaderm dressing is loosened, you may either (1) alternately stretch and relax the dressing or (2) “walk” your fingers under the dressing to continue stretching it. With both approaches, one hand continually supports the skin adhered to the Tegaderm dressing.

Tape method

This procedure is similar to the method described for removing tape strips.

- Stabilize skin next to the Tegaderm dressing.
- With other hand, grasp one edge of the dressing.
- Slowly peel dressing back over itself, “low and slow,” in direction of hair growth. Removing dressing at an angle will pull at the epidermis, increasing risk of mechanical trauma. As dressing is removed, continue moving finger as necessary, supporting newly exposed skin.





3MTM Steri-StripTM Adhesive Skin Closures

You can rely on 3M[®] Steri-Strip[™] Adhesive Skin Closures to make wound closure fast and simple while reducing the risk of infection.

*Studies have shown that for “clean contaminated” and “contaminated” wounds, Steri-Strip skin closures are associated with a lower infection rate than for those closed with invasive sutures or staples.**

What’s more, the non-invasive technique reduces tissue trauma and patient comfort is improved. Using sterile Steri-Strip closures gives increased tensile strength to the wound, and there is less scarring from puncture marks or cross-hatching produced by sutures or staples.

** (See references on page 39.)*

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closures (Reinforced)

The standard for wound closure and wound support.



Features and benefits

- Nonwoven, rayon-backed material reinforced with filaments for strength
- Microporous material is breathable
- Hypoallergenic adhesive
- Provides wound support and assists in increasing the tensile strength of the wound
- Provides better cosmetic outcome than sutures or staples
- Permits early staple/suture removal
- Allows finer wound edge approximation
- Reduces the risk of infection*

Suggested applications

- Reinforced 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closures are used in the closure of lacerations, surgical incisions and following early suture/staple removal.

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Closures/ Envelope	Envelopes/ Box	Boxes/ Case
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closures (Reinforced)					
R1540		1/8 in. x 3 in./3mm x 75mm	5	50	4
R1541		1/4 in. x 3 in./6mm x 75mm	3	50	4
R1542		1/4 in. x 1-1/2 in./6mm x 38mm	6	50	4
R1546		1/4 in. x 4 in./6mm x 100mm	10	50	4
R1547		1/2 in. x 4 in./12mm x 100mm	6	50	4
R1548		1 in. x 5 in./25mm x 125mm	4	25	4
R1549		1/2 in. x 2 in./12mm x 50mm	6	50	4

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Elastic Skin Closures

Flexibility for your special application needs with elasticity and conformability.



Features and benefits

- Tan color for a cosmetically pleasing appearance
- Soft, nonwoven backing for patient comfort
- Hypoallergenic adhesive
- Stretches with body movement or edema

Suggested applications

- 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Elastic Skin Closures are chosen when conformability and flexibility are needed, such as highly contoured areas, areas of musculoskeletal movement, or where edema is expected.

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Closures/ Envelope	Envelopes/ Box	Boxes/ Case
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Elastic Skin Closures					
E4540		1/8 in. x 3 in./3mm x 75mm	5	50	4
E4541		1/4 in. x 3 in./6mm x 75mm	3	50	4
E4542		1/4 in. x 1-1/2 in./6mm x 38mm	6	50	4
E4546		1/4 in. x 4 in./6mm x 100mm	10	50	4
E4547		1/2 in. x 4 in./12mm x 100mm	6	50	4
E4548		1 in. x 5 in./ 25mm x 125mm	4	25	4
E4549		1/2 in. x 2 in./ 12mm x 50mm	6	50	4

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Blend Tone Skin Closures

Non-reinforced, microporous, light-colored skin closures.



Features and benefits

- Microporous material is breathable
- Hypoallergenic, pressure-sensitive adhesive
- Light color allows natural skin tone to show through

Suggested applications

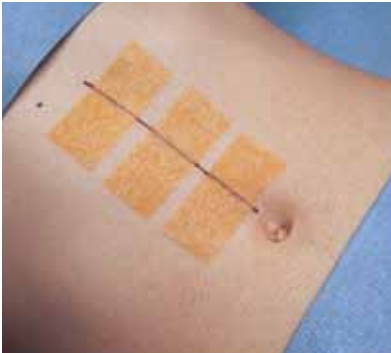
- 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Blend Tone Skin Closures can be used when there is a need for a non-reinforced, gentle closure. It's barely noticeable and allows natural skin tone to show through.

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Closures/ Envelope	Envelopes/ Box	Boxes/ Case
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Blend Tone Skin Closures					
B1550		1/8 in. x 3 in./3mm x 75mm	5	50	4
B1551		1/4 in. x 3 in./6mm x 75mm	3	50	4
B1553		1/4 in. x 4 in./6mm x 100mm	10	50	4
B1557		1/2 in. x 4 in./12mm x 100mm	6	50	4
B1559		1/2 in. x 2 in./12mm x 50mm	6	50	4

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Antimicrobial Skin Closures

Offers wound closure and support with a special adhesive containing Iodophor.



Features and benefits

- Iodophor incorporated in the adhesive
- High initial tack
- Excellent long-term adhesion

Suggested applications

- 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Antimicrobial Skin Closures can be used for closure of lacerations, surgical incisions and wound support following early suture/staple removal.

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Closures/ Envelope	Envelopes/ Box	Boxes/ Case
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Antimicrobial Skin Closures (Reinforced)					
A1840		1/8 in. x 3 in./3mm x 75mm	5	50	4
A1841		1/4 in. x 3 in./6mm x 75mm	3	50	4
A1842		1/4 in. x 1-1/2 in./6mm x 38mm	6	50	4
A1846		1/4 in. x 4 in./6mm x 100mm	10	50	4
A1847		1/2 in. x 4 in./12mm x 100mm	6	50	4
A1848		1 in. x 5 in./ 25mm x 125mm	4	25	4

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Wound Closure System

Combines the cosmetic benefits of 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closures and the barrier protection of 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Dressing into one convenient product.



Features and benefits

- Makes closure quick and easy
- Provides a waterproof barrier, so patients can shower
- Eliminates the need to cut strips or dressings
- Steri-Strip closures reduce the risk of infection compared to sutured or stapled wounds
- Tegaderm dressings conform and stretch, allowing free movement
- May be worn for up to seven days

Suggested applications

- 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Wound Closure System contains a reinforced strip closure with the barrier protection of 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Dressings, thereby providing convenient, conformable, waterproof coverage of the wound site. Ideal when the wound or incision is small.

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Closures/ Envelope	Envelopes/ Box	Boxes/ Case
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Wound Closure System*					
W8512*		2-3/8 in. x 1-7/8 in./60mm x 48mm	1	25	4
W8514*		2-3/8 in. x 1-7/8 in./60mm x 48mm	3	25	4
W8516*		2-3/8 in. x 1-7/8 in./60mm x 48mm	5	25	4

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Compound Benzoin Tincture

Steri-Strip compound benzoin tincture may be used to increase skin closure adhesion. Sterile tray packaging allows aseptic delivery.



3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closure Rack

The Steri-Strip skin closure rack is a convenient way to keep the sizes you use most within easy reach in an office or hospital setting.

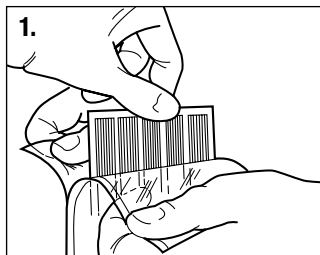


Ordering Information

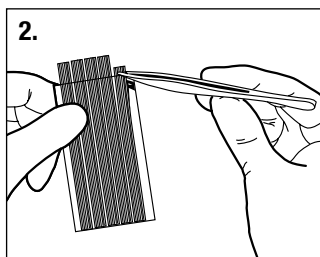
Cat. No.	NDC No.	Size	Items/ Box	Boxes/ Case
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Compound Benzoin Tincture				
C1544		2/3cc	40	4
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Skin Closure Rack				
1555		19-1/2 in. x 5-7/8 in. x 3 in.	4 or 8 Steri-Strip boxes of any combination	1

Skin Closure Application

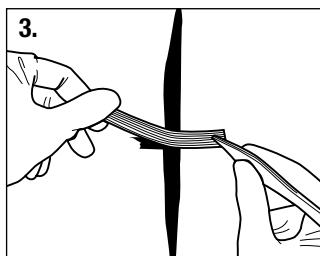
3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closures



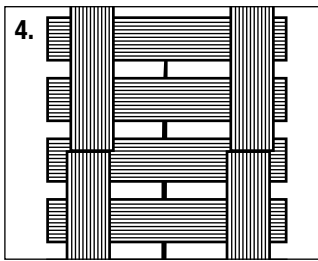
- Clean and dry skin at least two inches around wound.
- If enhanced strip adhesion is desired, a thin layer of 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Compound Benzoin Tincture (CBT) may be applied on skin up to wound edge.*
- If distention or movement is anticipated, consider using 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Elastic Skin Closures.
- Peel back package tabs to access the sterile Steri-Strip closures (fig. 1).



- Remove card, using sterile precautions as necessary.
- Bend card at end perforation and gently remove tab.
- Grasp end of skin closure with forceps or gloved hand; lift straight upward (90 degree angle). Steri-Strip closures lifted at a lesser angle or directly back on themselves may “curl,” complicating handling (fig. 2).



- Wound closure generally starts at the middle of the wound.
- Steri-Strip closures must be applied without tension. Do not stretch or “strap” Steri-Strip closures.
- Apply one-half of first Steri-Strip closure to wound margin and press firmly in place.
- Using fingers or forceps, appose skin edges as closely as possible.
- Press free half of Steri-Strip closure firmly on other side of wound.
- The rest of the wound should be closed with additional Steri-Strip closures spaced approximately 1/8 inch (3mm) apart by (a) sequentially bisecting remaining length of wound with Steri-Strip closures or (b) applying Steri-Strip closures 1/8 inch apart until edges are completely approximated.
- If edges are not accurately apposed, remove Steri-Strip closures over affected area (peeling each side towards wound) and re-approximate wound (fig. 3).



- Additional Steri-Strip closures may be applied parallel to wound, approximately 1/2 inch in from ends (cross stays, railroad tracks). This may reduce stress beneath the ends of Steri-Strip closures decreasing risk of skin tension blisters and premature lifting of Steri-Strip closures (fig. 4).

If tension is noted under Steri-Strip skin closures, they may be replaced under the direction of a health care professional. Lifted edges of Steri-Strip closures may be trimmed. However, when less than 1/2 inch of Steri-Strip closures remaining on either side of wound, one might consider gently removing the Steri-Strip closure and replacing it with a new one.

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Wound Closure System

- Prepare site for closure and dressing.
- Remove center oval from the 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Dressing. The Steri-Strip skin closure will remain on the oval.
- Grasp end of Steri-Strip skin closure to remove.
- Approximate wound edges and apply Steri-Strip closure.
- Gently, but firmly, smooth skin closure from center outward.
- Peel paper liner from dressing to expose adhesive surface. Position dressing over site, covering Steri-Strip closure.
- Gently remove paper frame while smoothing down dressing edges. Firmly smooth dressing from center towards the edges.

Skin Closure Removal

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closure

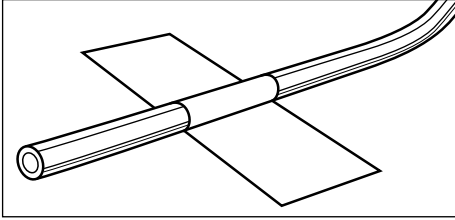
- Remove cross stays.
- Gently grasp and loosen ends of Steri-Strip closure.
- Stabilize the skin with one finger.
- Remove Steri-Strip closure “low and slow” towards wound, keeping it close to skin surface and pulled back over itself. Removing Steri-Strip closure at an angle will pull at the epidermis increasing risk of mechanical trauma.
- As the Steri-Strip closure is removed, continue moving finger as necessary, supporting newly exposed skin.
- When both sides of the Steri-Strip closure are completely loosened, lift strip up from center of wound.

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Wound Closure

Follow directions for removing Tegaderm dressing on page 22. Using the stretch method will allow the Steri-Strip skin closure to remain in place. If Steri-Strip skin closure is also to be removed, follow Skin Closure Removal instructions above.

Application Techniques: Tubing

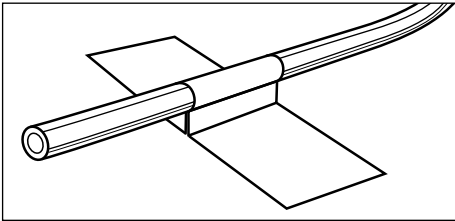
Tape over



Used for short-term applications.

- Carefully place tape over tubing, adhesive side down, without creating pressure under the tubing.
- Press tape against tubing.

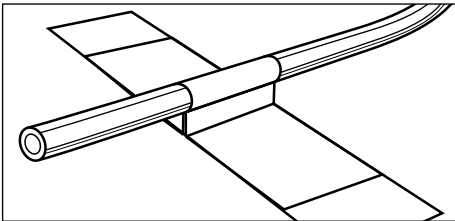
Lift



Used to reduce potential pressure under tubing.

- Center tape over tubing: encircle tubing with tape.
- Where tape meets, pinch the two adhesive sides together. Secure remainder of tape to skin.

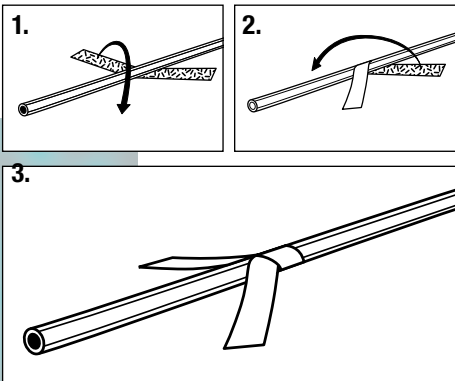
Lift with platform



Used when repeated taping is anticipated.

- A breathable, gentle tape may be placed on skin to serve as a platform for applying additional tape to the area.
- When tubing change or retaping is required, only the upper tape is removed; the platform remains intact.
- Platforms may also be made from barrier wafers or hydrocolloids.

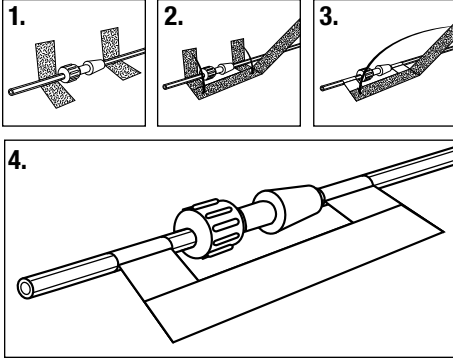
Chevron



V-shaped pattern for tube secure.

- Center tape, adhesive side up, under tubing (fig. 1).
- Cross one section of tape over tubing and secure to skin (fig. 2).
- Repeat with other side of tape (fig. 3).
- Technique works best with thin tape strips or conformable tapes.

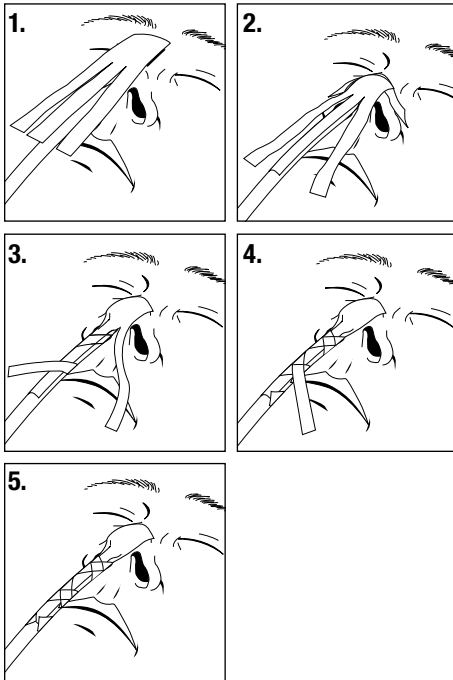
Bridge



Used to prevent connections from separating.

- Lay a tape strip under tubing on each side of connection, adhesive side up (fig. 1).
- Place an additional, longer piece of tape, adhesive side up across the tops of first strips (fig. 2).
- Fold first strips in half over the tubing onto themselves (fig. 2).
- Fold longer strip in half, enclosing both ends of the short strips (fig. 3).

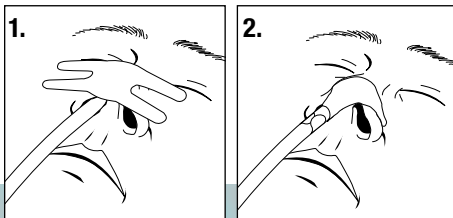
Split with chevron



A two or three split is often used for NG tubing. Use a tape that will retain strength when in strips.

- Tear off approximately 4-6 inches of tape.
- Split tape lengthwise into three sections, leaving an untorn section at the top. The untorn section should be long enough to extend at least to middle of the nose (fig. 1).
- Secure untorn section of tape to the nose (fig. 1).
- Firmly adhere center “split” of tape down the center of tubing (fig. 2).
- Wrap second strip around tubing (fig. 3).
- Repeat in opposite direction with third strip (fig. 4).
- An alternative configuration is a two-split without a center tape strip.
- This application may be used over a tape platform, or a reinforcing tape strip may be applied over the untorn section.

Knuckle bandage

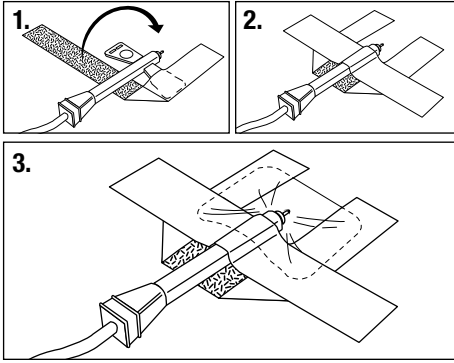


An alternative to a split with chevron for NGs.

- The lower arms of the knuckle bandage are wrapped around the tubing while the upper arms and padding are secured to the nose.

Application Techniques: Tubing Secural

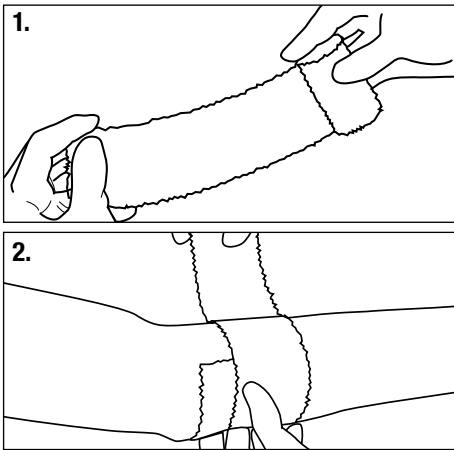
U or butterfly



Used to secure “butterfly” needle/catheter.

- Center strip of tape under wings, adhesive side up (fig. 1).
- Fold one end of tape at a right angle over first wing, towards the insertion site, and secure it to the skin (fig. 1).
- Repeat process to secure second wing.
- Place additional strips of tape to secure wings and tubing (fig. 2).
- Place sterile 3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Dressing over IV insertion site (fig. 3).

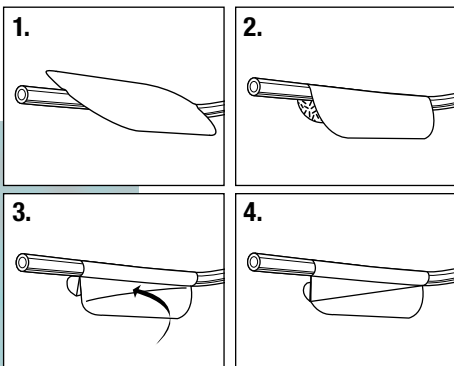
3M™ Coban™ Self-Adherent Wrap*



Used to secure or support tubing without using adhesive.

- Unwind approximately 12 inches of Coban wrap from roll and allow it to relax (fig. 1).
- Without stretching, apply one full wrap and overlap (fig. 2).
- Press overlapped area lightly to keep in place.
- Continue wrapping area without tension.
- When application is complete, cut dressing and secure end by gently pressing it in place.

3M™ Tegaderm™ Transparent Dressing “Tent”



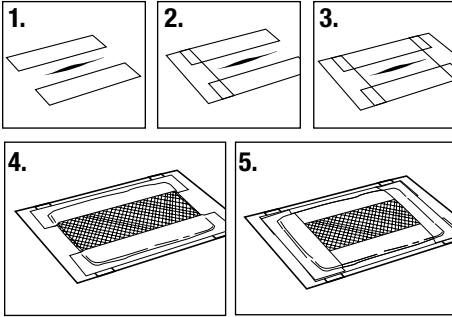
Used to reduce pressure under very small diameter tubing by enabling the tubing to be shifted side-to-side.

- Remove Tegaderm dressing liner.
- Using frame split as a guide, center dressing over tubing (fig. 1).
- While lifting tubing at an angle from skin, apply dressing (fig. 2).
- Pinch adhesive sides together under tubing (fig. 3).
- Remove frame and smooth remaining Tegaderm dressing onto skin (fig. 4).

Note: A tension loop is often used to reduce the risk of unintentional dislodgement of a catheter or tubing.

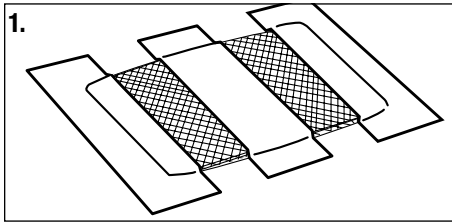
Application Techniques: Dressing Secural

Picture frame



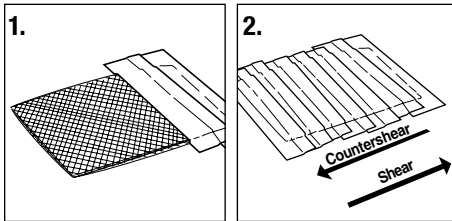
- A platform of tape may be placed around wound before the dressing is applied (figs. 1-3).
- Place dressing over wound.
- Place tape strips over each dressing edge, applying onto platform, smoothing from center out (fig. 4-5).

Stripes



Parallel strips of tape are placed across the dressing leaving open areas between the strips.

Overlapping



Arrange tape strips so the edges will resist lift/rolling under shear force. Tape strips are overlapped on the entire dressing.



Other:

3M™ Coban™ Self-Adherent Wrap* may be used to secure dressings without tension around limbs or digits.

Compression: Compression may be applied to a dressing by using a stretchable tape or a self-adherent wrap. Compression should come from the multiple layers of dressing material, not from excessive tension in the tape. See Tape Application Techniques (page 21). As noted before, skin distention under tape may result in blistering and should be relieved as soon as possible. Follow product instructions when Coban wrap is used as an elastic wrap to provide compression. Coban wrap is also available sterile, latex free and latex free sterile.

Reducing the Risk of Superficial Skin Damage Related to Adhesive Use

Superficial skin damage can occur when adhesive products are used. Skin stripping and tension blisters are the most common problems associated with taping. Many of these injuries may be prevented by correct use including careful attention to skin preparation, choice of tape, and proper application and removal of tape. Less common types of skin damage are irritant contact dermatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, folliculitis and maceration. A small percentage of individuals may experience hypopigmentation or hyperpigmentation of the skin following the removal of an adhesive product. Similar problems may occur with skin closure strips.

Problem	Cause	To reduce the risk of injury
	<p>A partial thickness injury occurring when adhesive bond between tape and skin is greater than the bond between epidermis and dermis. As tape is removed, the epidermis remains attached to the adhesive, resulting in epidermal damage or a painful area of exposed dermis. Degree of stripping varies with skin condition, adhesive characteristics, and frequency of taping.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use gentle, hypoallergenic tape • Match strength of adhesive to clinical needs and skin condition • Apply tape to clean, dry skin • For high risk patients, avoid using skin tackifiers under tape • Protect skin with 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film allowing it to dry before taping • If repeated taping is anticipated, consider applying tape over a platform • Use proper removal technique
	<p>The most common causes of tension injury are inappropriate strapping of tape during application and distention of skin under an unyielding tape.</p> <p>Strapping tape across skin is mistakenly thought to increase adhesion. As the tape backing resists stretch or regains its original shape, the epidermis begins to lift. This results in “tension blisters” typically seen at ends of the tape. Skin tears may occur before a blister even forms.</p> <p>Tension injuries may also occur when edema, hematoma formation, or distention distorts the skin surface or when a joint or other area of movement is covered with an unyielding tape.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply tape without tension • Identify patients at high-risk: fragile skin, medical conditions (e.g., long-term corticosteroid use, malnutrition) or surgical procedures where edema or distention is expected (abdominal, orthopedic) • Protect skin with 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film • If swelling or movement is expected, use a tape that stretches. Apply tape so direction of stretch corresponds with direction of swelling • If desired, compression may be obtained by carefully stretching tape over a dressing while securing the tape to the skin without tension. Refer to page 21 • If distention or edema is noted, loosen, reposition, or replace tape

Stripping

Mechanical injury due to tension

Problem

Cause

To reduce the risk of injury



Non-Allergic Contact Dermatitis

A non-allergic contact dermatitis may result when chemical irritants such as tackifiers or some skin preparations are trapped between adhesive and skin. The affected area will correlate to the area of exposure and may appear reddened, swollen, blistered, or weeping.

- Assure that skin is clean and dry before applying tape
- Protect skin with 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film allowing it to dry before applying tape
- If possible, avoid using tackifiers



Allergic Contact Dermatitis

Allergic reactions are cell-mediated immunologic responses to a particular component of a tape adhesive or backing and occur infrequently. Patients may be mistakenly identified as having tape allergies when, in fact, they have experienced a non-allergic contact dermatitis. Clinical signs include well-defined areas of erythema and edema; vesicles may be present, as well as small erosions.

- Identifying type of tape causing sensitivity
- Options may include identifying an alternative hypoallergenic tape or contacting tape manufacturer for assistance
- Using 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film may not prevent an allergic reaction



Folliculitis

Folliculitis is an inflammation of the hair follicle caused by shaving or entrapment of bacteria.

- Use a clipper or depilatory preparation if hair removal is necessary



Maceration

Maceration refers to skin changes seen when moisture is trapped against the skin for a prolonged period. The skin will turn white or gray, softens and wrinkles. Macerated skin is more permeable and prone to damage from friction and irritants.

- Keep taped skin clean and dry
- Replace tape if soiled
- Use breathable tape in moist areas
- Avoid occlusive tapes unless clinically indicated

Two Common Taping Concerns

	Tape doesn't stick?	Skin damage?
	<i>The problem might be:</i>	<i>The problem might be:</i>
Skin preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moist or oily skin • Soap/moisturizer on skin • Prep solution containing surfactant or glycerin was not allowed to dry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vigorous alcohol prep • Sensitivity to tackifier • Skin irritated/denuded before tape applied
Application/removal technique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated touching of adhesive • Area under tape distended or moved • Tape not gently & firmly stroked after applying • Gaps left between tape and tubing/dressing • Loose tape edges • "Folded tab" left on tape • Tubing subjected to tension/pulling • Too much moisture (maceration) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tape applied under tension • Traumatic removal • Tape removed at an angle • Skin not supported during tape removal • Too much tape • Area completely encircled with tape
Choice of tape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhesive not strong enough for the particular application, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> –very active patient –patient pulls at tubing/dressing –heavy device or tubing –lacking tension loop –"critical" application • Tape too stiff to conform to contours • Inappropriate tape for degree of skin moisture or surface of dressing/device • Adhesion may vary depending on skin type and body chemistry; if one tape doesn't adhere, consider selecting another 3M surgical tape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Non-stretch" tape used on area that "expanded" (e.g., edema, hematoma formation, distention) or moved • Adhesive more aggressive than needed • Occlusive tape left on too long • Patient sensitive to specific adhesive • Irritating tape or substance placed over perforated or porous tape

3M™ Steri-Strip™ Adhesive Skin Closures

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