

3M Science.
Applied to Life.™

Medical securement selection, application and removal guide

Awareness of, and training on, the latest approaches to selecting, applying, and removing medical adhesive products can help increase the consistency of care in your facility and help reduce the risk of cross-contamination and Medical Adhesive-Related Skin Injury (MARSJ).



3M offers individually packaged, single-use length rolls spanning the four securement classes.

Assess and prepare the skin



- Assess the skin.
- Clip/trim hair.
- Clean and dry the skin.
- To protect at-risk skin, consider the use of 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film under acrylate adhesives, and allow to dry completely before applying tape.
- Avoid routine use of tackifiers.



**3M™ Cavilon™
No Sting Barrier Film**

Select the product for the intended use

In most facilities, we find that securement needs fall into four basic classes, grouped by types of clinical applications as shown below. 3M has updated product packaging with the class color to visibly align each product to its securement class. Training on this framework can help with standardization.





- Based on clinical job, determine the securement class needed.
- Select a tape or wrap within that securement class. Consider a product with 3M's skin performance designation, if available.
- Select individually packaged single-use length rolls whenever possible.



Skin performance: The feather designates products that deliver the securement power you need while minimizing damage to skin.



Individually packaged single-use length rolls can help reduce the risk of cross-contamination.*

Non-adhesive 	Multi-purpose 	Flexible 	High-strength
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood draws • Dressings • Immobilization • Securement for difficult to dress areas (head, fingers, toes) • Support and mild compression for soft tissue injuries (i.e. strains, sprains)**  <p>3M™ Coban™ NL Non-Latex Self-Adherent Wrap</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood draws • Light-weight dressings • IV lines and tubing (secondary securement) • Non-critical tubes  <p>3M™ Micropore™ S Surgical Tape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressings and added pressure • IV lines and tubing (secondary securement) • When swelling or movement is anticipated • Central venous catheters (secondary securement) • Chest tubes • Surgical drain tubes  <p>3M™ Medipore™ H Soft Cloth Surgical Tape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urinary catheters • Nasogastric tubes • Orogastric tubes • Patient positioning  <p>3M™ Durapore™ Surgical Tape</p>
<p>Other non-adhesive 3M medical securement solutions: 3M™ Coban™ Self-Adherent Wrap (contains latex) **Stretched length</p>	<p>Other multi-purpose 3M medical securement solutions: 3M™ Transpore™ White Surgical Tape 3M™ Micropore™ Surgical Tape 3M™ Transpore™ Surgical Tape</p>	<p>Other flexible 3M medical securement solutions: 3M™ Microfoam™ Surgical Tape</p>	<p>Other high-strength 3M medical securement solutions: 3M™ Multipore™ Dry Surgical Tape</p>

*Single-use packaging helps prevent tape from being exposed to environmental contaminants, minimizes contact with healthcare worker hands, surfaces and equipment. Practice good infection prevention technique per facility protocol.

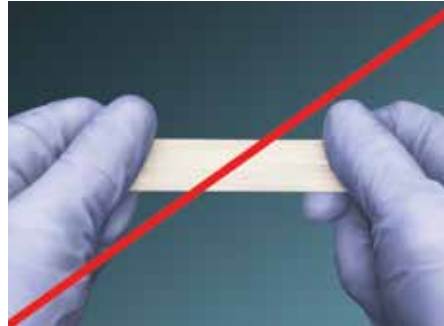
Application

- Use a new, clean roll, preferably an individually packaged, single-use length roll.
- Do not place tape or wrap onto surfaces prior to placing on skin; this may reduce adhesion and increase risk of cross-contamination.

Medical tapes



- Apply tape to skin.



- **Do not** pull or stretch tape during application. Doing so may result in tension blisters as tape attempts to rebound to its initial state.



- Apply firm pressure to activate the adhesive and fully contact skin. Acrylate adhesives, in particular, are pressure sensitive.
- Discard unused tape.

Self-adherent wraps



- Unwind ... and allow the wrap to relax.
- Without stretching, apply one full wrap and overlap. Lightly press the overlap into place to secure.
- Do not place in direct contact with an open wound because it may lead to infection.



- Continue wrapping, applying tension to the wrap to achieve the desired compression. Apply light pressure at the end of the application to secure the wrap.
- Do not wrap too tightly to avoid impairing circulation and causing serious injury.



- “Hug” the layers together to ensure that the wrap’s windings cohere to one other.
- Monitor area frequently (no less than every 24 hours) for signs of swelling, discoloration, pain, numbness, tingling, or other changes in sensation. If these symptoms occur, remove wrap immediately and contact a health care provider.

Removal

Medical tapes

Along with appropriate product selection and application, proper tape removal is critical to help reduce the incidence of Medical Adhesive-Related Skin Injury (MARSI).¹ MARSI can cause pain, increase the risk of infection and delay healing.² It is prevalent but underrecognized, underreported and a preventable complication that can impact the patient experience, patient satisfaction and be serious enough to require additional treatment.¹



- Loosen the tape's leading edge.
- For tape that is strongly adhered to the skin, consider using a medical grade adhesive remover or hand sanitizer to soften the adhesive along the peel line.



- **Do not** pull tape perpendicular to the skin because it pulls at the epidermis, increasing the risk of MARSI.



- Stabilize the skin with one finger at the peel line and continuously move it along the peel line to support the skin during removal.
- Remove the tape “low and slow” in the direction of hair growth by pulling the tape back over itself so that the tape is low (close to) the skin surface and slowly removing the tape.

Self-adherent wraps

- Loosen the wrap's leading edge and unwrap it.
- Discard unused wrap.

For more information visit
3M.com/MedicalSecurement or
contact your 3M representative.



3M Company
2510 Conway Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55144 USA

Phone 1-800-275-4524 (NPWT products)
1-800-228-3957
Web 3M.com/medical

See specific manufacturer's labeling for any additional or contrary directions related to preparation, application and removal.

1. McNichol L, Lund C, Rosen T, Gray M. Medical adhesives and patient safety: state of the science. Consensus statements for the assessment, prevention and treatment of adhesive-related skin injuries. *J WOCN*.2013;40(4):365-380.
2. Cutting KF. Impact of adhesive surgical tape and wound dressing on the skin with reference to skin stripping. *J Wound Care*.2008;157-158, 160-162.

© 2022 3M. All rights reserved. 3M and the other marks shown are marks and/or registered marks. Unauthorized use prohibited. Used under license in Canada. 70-2013-1344-5