

HARPWOOD HOUSE - SKIN TEAR PROTOCOL

- 1) Carefully clean the skin tear site with normal saline and gauze
- 2) Re-position the skin flap as best you can
- 3) Apply steristrips to secure the skin flap
- 4) Apply a mepore dressing to the skin tear
- 5) Please mark an arrow (with a pen) the direction the skin flap has been re-positioned
- 6) Date the dressing with a pen
- 7) The dressing **MUST** be checked at least 48 hours later unless there has been a strike through on the dressing – then change sooner
- 8) Update the care plan – ‘skin integrity’
- 9) Enter the date for the next dressing change into the diary and also the handover sheet
- 10) Take care removing the dressing – remove the dressing in the direction of the arrow to avoid further trauma to the site.

Assess the skin flap – does it require a further dressing or has it healed sufficiently to expose it to the air.

If any concerns please seek advice.

Reviewed October 2017