Wound FAQs

“What is a problem wound?”
A problem wound is a wound that does not heal in an expected, orderly fashion in a reasonable length of time. Any wound that has been present longer than 4 weeks is considered a chronic, problem wound.

“Why do people with diabetes get wounds and ulcers?”
Diabetes is a disease that affects many different organ systems of the body. Diabetic ulcers result from neuropathy, or the degeneration of nerves, pressure, such as the rubbing of a toe on a shoe, or peripheral vascular disease.

“What are obstacles to wound healing?”
Wound healing depends on a large number of factors. When any of the building blocks of wound healing are disrupted, a delay in wound healing can occur. This includes malnutrition, uncontrolled blood sugars, pressure on wounds/inappropriate foot wear, lack of blood flow, or inappropriate wound dressings.

“Why is it important to get wounds to heal?”
We at the BHS Wound Care Center are aggressive in wound treatments because the consequences of untreated/unhealed wounds can be catastrophic, including amputation, uncontrolled infection, or death.

“How can the BHS Wound Care Center help me with my wound?”
We have many options available for wound healing, including specialized in-office wound debridement/cleansing, advanced wound care dressings and bioengineered skin grafts, and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.
Healing That Lasts

The BHS Wound Center offers a comprehensive approach to wound management and healing.

Today, nearly seven million Americans suffer from chronic wounds – two-thirds of them because of complications from diabetes and peripheral vascular disease. Even worse, people often suffer longer than necessary because they don’t get the kind of specialized attention that can help them heal faster.

Thanks to the BHS Wound Center, there are treatment options designed to help patients return to normal living.

New wound care products and devices are constantly being developed. BHS Wound Center is one of the institutions offering those advances to the residents of Western Pennsylvania.

“
The Wound Center was wonderful. Dr. Larson was also wonderful. If I hadn’t gotten to the Wound Center, I probably would’ve lost my leg.

Mary Sutton, Wound Center Patient

Call us today to make an appointment or for more information at 1-877-977-HEAL (4325).

Why Wound Centers?

In an average hospital, your chronic wound will be treated by a nurse in a traditional room. But without specialized equipment, advanced training and infrastructure, this type of treatment seldom gives you the kind of care that can heal a wound quickly.

Chronic wounds present a variety of complications that require equipment, expertise and processes to track outcomes. A qualified wound center can offer a range of technology and treatments including debridement, the latest dressings and wraps, tissue substitutes, vacuum-assisted closure and hyperbaric medicine.

These extensive resources and quality care can make a difference in not only your current healing, but also your future health.

All the Tools You Need to Heal

We have multidisciplinary teams of experienced professionals including infectious disease specialists, general and plastic surgeons, podiatrists, physical therapists, certified wound care specialists, interventional radiologists, cardiovascular surgeons and lymphedema management specialists.

Whether you have pressure sores, diabetic foot ulcers, burns, venous stasis ulcers of the legs, or other wound problems, a solution may be just a phone call away.

The American Diabetes Association estimates half of all diabetes-related amputations could be eliminated with regular screening treatment for neuropathy and better wound prevention education.

Advanced Healing for Chronic Wounds

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy

Another valuable technology offered by the BHS Wound Center is Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT). With HBOT, patients receive 100% oxygen inside a treatment chamber at specified pressures below sea level. The pure oxygen environment at elevated pressure enhances the body’s natural healing process and strengthens the immune system. This makes it especially effective for diabetic wounds of the lower extremities, compromised skin grafts and wounds caused by poor circulation. HBOT also offers an opportunity to maximize oxygen delivery for patients with minimal or insufficient blood flow to wounded tissues.

Medicare now approves this approach for 10 different wound conditions, making it an increasingly accepted treatment for chronic, non-healing wounds and other health conditions.