|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| HOT WET COMPRESSES | | | | NO. 77 | |
| PURPOSE:  To alleviate swelling in absessed areas according to physician’s orders.  EQUIPMENT:   1. Clean wash cloth 2. Several large bath towels   PROCEDURE: 5 min. 0.083 hr.   1. Explain procedure to patient. 2. Protect bed linen around the affected area. 3. Position patient comfortably with affected area exposed. 4. Wet wash cloth with hot water and test by placing on inside of wrist or with thermometer. 5. Apply hot, wet wash cloth. 6. Place towel over entire area. 7. Check frequently to be sure heat is not too intense and to avoid burning. 8. Continue treatment for length of time ordered. 9. Change wash cloth as it becomes cool and/or soiled with drainage. 10. Chart:   a. Time  b. Duration  c. Results  d. Appearance of affected area or any drainage  e. Reaction of patient | | | | | |
| Approved: | Effective Date:  2/86 | Revision Date:  3/06 | Change No.: | | Page:  1 of 1 |