

Section: Division of Nursing

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**PROCEDURE**  
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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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**3-NORTH**  
(Scope)

**TITLE: SKELETAL PIN CARE**

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**PURPOSE:** To outline the nursing methodology for proper skeletal pin care.

**SUPPORTIVE DATA:** Skeletal pin care is done every day. The condition of the pin sites or the doctor's orders may also determine the frequency of the care.

**CONTENT:**

**PROCEDURE STEPS:**

**KEY POINTS:**

1. If ordered by MD, swab pin site with betadine.
2. Dress the pin sites with sterile gauze loosely (may use pre-cut 4x4s).
3. Document condition of skin surrounding the pins, monitoring of the pin insertion sites for signs of infection and patient's response to traction in the nursing notes.