Limb reconstruction pin site care
Femoral monolateral frames

Stock required
• Dressing pack.
• Allevyn™ dressing 10 × 10 cm × 1.
• Cotton balls (a few more than the number of pins).
• Clean scissors (two if cutting off old bandages).
• Sterile gloves.
• Non-sterile gloves.
• Normal saline 0.9%.
• Tape eg. Hypafix™, Mefix™.
• 5cm Handyband™ bandages × 2 (Figure 1).

Procedure
• Wash hands.
• Open all sterile stock to be used.
• Pour saline into tray.
• Remove bandages using unsterile gloves (and one pair of scissors if needed).
• Remove old dressing.
• Wash hands and put on sterile gloves.
• Cut Allevyn™ into keyhole dressing with a clean pair of scissors as shown (Figure 2).

• Clean each pin site with a separate saline soaked cotton swab (Figure 3).

• No attempt is made to remove scabs/crusts from skin. These will fall off when ready.
• Dress each pinsite with the Allevyn™ dressing (Figure 4).

• Tape dressing down with Hypafix™ tape as shown (Figure 5).

• Extra padding may be added to give dressing more bulk. This can be small pre-cut dressings, eg. Topper™, Soft-wick™, or wrap gauze around pin before starting the bandaging. This should be applied on top of Allevyn™.

• The purpose of the bandaging is to maintain a firm tension against the skin to prevent skin hypertrophy and movement of skin around pinsites (especially a problem if pin site is in a large muscle mass).

• Bandage pins in groups as shown (Figure 6). The purpose of the bandaging is to maintain a firm tension against the skin to prevent skin hypertrophy and skin movement.

• Wrap bandage around a couple of times, then bandage through the centre of the pins in a figure of 8 fashion if possible.

• Bandage close to the edge of the fixator (Figure 7).

• Dress twice per week.

Problems or queries

Limb Reconstruction Service
9345 7027 or via switchboard on 9345 5522 (Note if there is no answer, please refer to the ward or leave a message).

If you have an urgent query, page the orthopaedic registrar or the limb reconstruction fellow through the hospital switchboard, on 03) 9345 5522.

Web
www.rch.org.au/limbrecon/