Limb reconstruction pin site care
Pelvic monolateral frames

Stock required
- Dressing pack.
- Allevyn™ dressing 10 × 10 cm (cut to size) or 5 × 5 cm if available.
- 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 using 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.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3
• Dress each pinsite with the Allevyn™ dressing (Figure 4).

Figure 4

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

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.

Figure 6

• 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 or sooner if clinical concern.

Figure 7

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/