

TYPES OF WOUND HEALING

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There are different types of healing (Summary box 3.2 Primary healing is also known as healing by first intention. This occurs when there is direct approximation of the wound edges and is the aim of treatment. When there are no adverse influences, these wounds heal well and leave the best scar. Delayed primary healing occurs when the wound edges are not opposed immediately , which may be necessary in contaminated or untidy wounds. After debridement of non-viable tissue and when the wound is clean, the wound edges may be surgically approximated. This is also called healing by tertiary intention. Secondary healing or healing by secondary intention occurs in wounds that are left open and allowed to heal by granulation, contraction and re-epithelialisation. Summary box 3.2 Classification of wound closure and healing /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF /uni25CF

Primary Wound edges apposed Normal healing Minimal scar Secondary Wound left open Heals by granulation, contraction and re-epithelialisation Increased in /f_l ammation and proliferation Poor scar Tertiary (delayed primary) Wound initially left open Edges apposed later when healing conditions favourable

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