Surgical Wound

How HCP Decision-making Affects Patient Health Trajectories and HC Spending





Mr. S

Risk factors for poor wound healing:

None



Mr. F

Risk factors for poor wound healing:

- Overweight
- Diabetic
- Malnourished



Key Decision Point:

- No risk assessment for wound healing is done pre-op
- As a result Mr. S and Mr. F are both given the same instructions for post-op period.



Mr. S, Result:

- Heals according to normal timelines for a low-risk individual
- No home care is required
- Back at work after expected time period



Mr. F, Scenario 1:

- Experiences slow healing
- Home care needed for 6 weeks
- Extra time off work
- Reduced quality of life



Mr. F, Scenario 2:

- Experiences slow healing and an infection at day 10
- Emergency department visit needed and a return to hospital for 7 days
- Home care needed for an additional 4 weeks after discharge







Solution for prevention:

- Pre-op risk assessment that includes nutritional assessment
- Post-op plan that includes ongoing nutritional assessment Support for good glycemic control
- Nutrition and glycemic control education through either family physician or home care.