

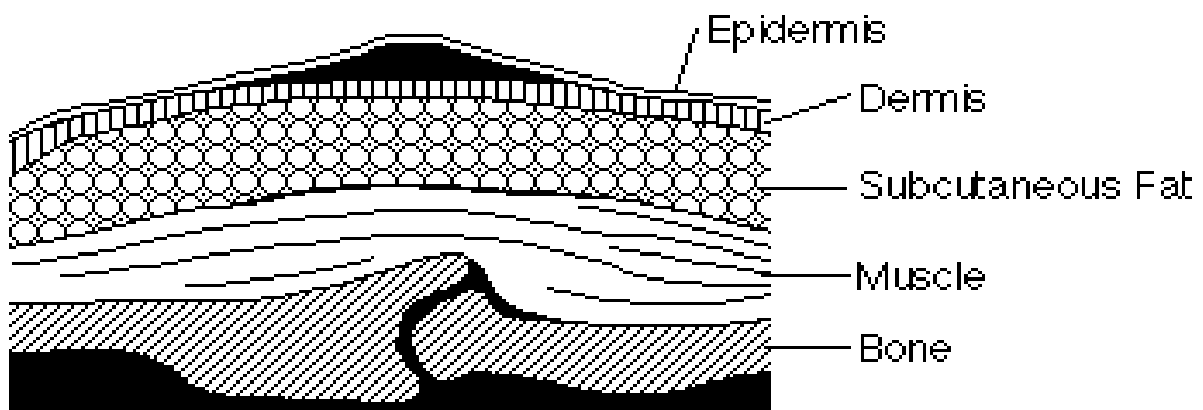


Information for You from Your Health Care Team

The Stages of Skin Breakdown

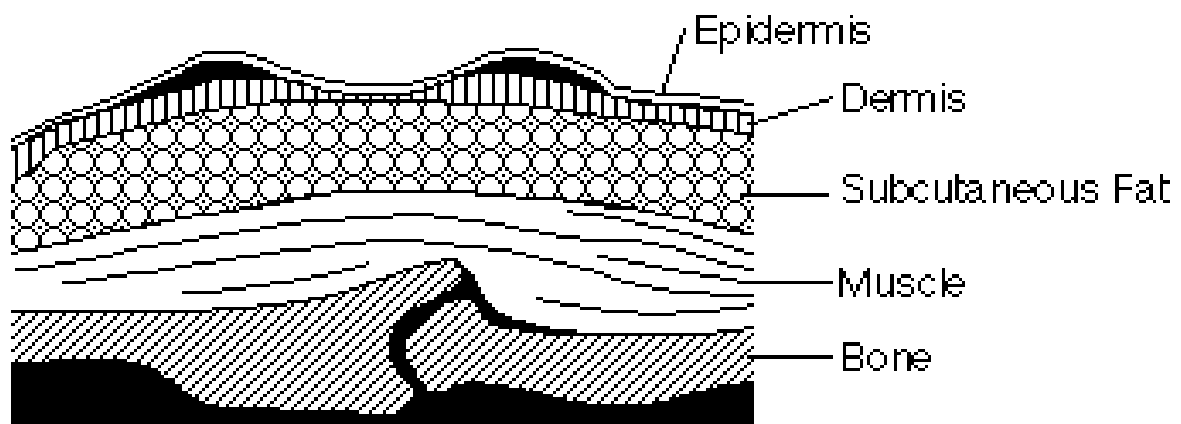
STAGE ONE

What does it look like: Skin is not open, but is red or darkened. The redness or change in color does not fade. When you press on the red area it does not turn white. Often, the skin will feel spongy.



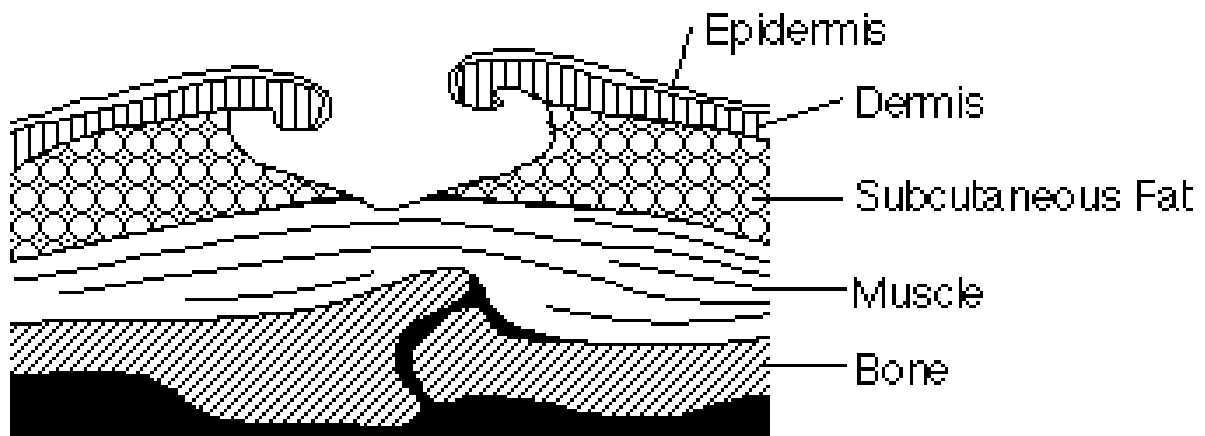
STAGE TWO

What does it look like: The top layer (epidermis) of the skin is open, creating an open sore that looks like a blister or crater. There may be drainage.



STAGE THREE

What does it look like: The opening in the skin goes through the second layer of skin (dermis) into the fatty layer (subcutaneous fat). The wound is deeper than in Stage Two and often will look like the bottom is full of chicken fat. There will probably be drainage



STAGE FOUR

What does it look like: The wound goes into the muscle layer and can go as far down as the bone. There is usually lots of dead tissue and drainage.

