

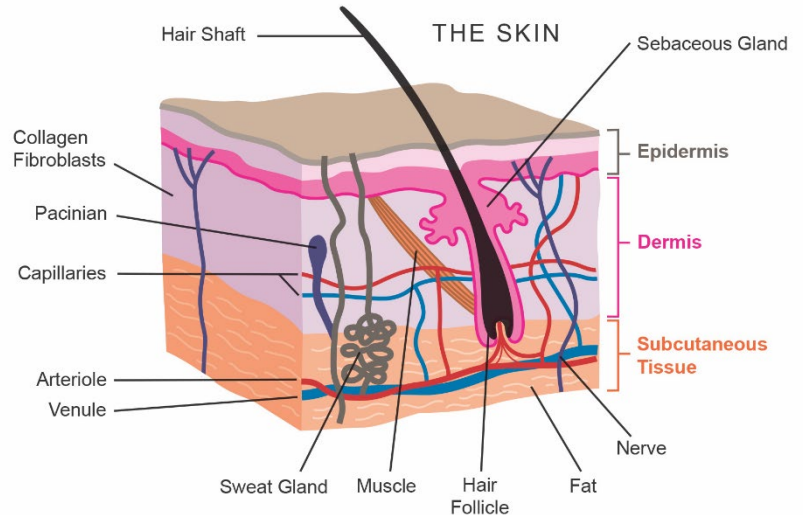
## Burn surgery

# ReCell®

### What is ReCell spray on-skin?

ReCell is used to spray a patient's own skin cells on to a burn wound area.

The surgeon will take a postage-stamp sized biopsy (thin piece of own healthy skin), which involves the whole outer layer of skin and a small part of the inner skin layer, usually from the buttock or thigh. This biopsy is then placed in a processing unit that separates the healthy skin cells and then suspends them in a liquid. Once sprayed on the wound area the cells multiply to heal the surface.



### Why is ReCell used?

ReCell is used to help heal the wound. Rapid healing reduces inflammation, redness and the risk of long term scarring. ReCell can also be used in combination with other skin grafting techniques where the damage is deeper. The cell suspension also contains cells which deal with pigmentation (skin colouring).

For further information about ReCell, visit their website [www.recell.info](http://www.recell.info).

### How long will ReCell take to heal?

The time taken to heal will depend on the area being treated. Protective dressings will normally need to stay in place for five to seven days after surgery before a dressing change takes place on the ward.

On ReCell application, a thin 'paper like' dressing (such as SurfraSoft®) is applied over the wound. This will also require removal from the wound surface and may take a few dressing changes. Secondary dressings may be required on smaller areas which are slower to heal.



## How do I care for the dressing?

The dressing must be kept clean, dry and in place as ordered by your child's doctor or nurse. If the dressing is accidentally removed, becomes wet or dirty, please phone PCH Ward 1B on 6456 3630 as soon as possible to organise a new dressing to be applied.

## What do I need to look out for?

Infections in burn patients can be very serious and must be treated urgently. Observe your child and the wound/dressing site frequently. Phone PCH Ward 1B immediately on 6456 3630 if any of the following occur:

- If your child's temperature is below 35.5°C or if they are febrile (raised temperature above 38°C)
- If they develop a rash, increase in pain, redness or swelling at the wound site
- Changes in the child's behaviour such as poor appetite, sleep disturbances, lethargy (quiet or lack of energy) or flat mood
- Excessive ooze/wound fluid (however a small amount of ooze is often expected)
- Offensive odour.



Government of **Western Australia**  
Child and Adolescent Health Service

**This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.**

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