



1. Overview

- a. Incision and Drainage is an important skill practitioners frequently needed in primary and acute care settings to treat abscesses.
- b. Equally important to attaining competency in the motor skill of Incision and Drainage is understanding most common causative organisms and prescribing appropriate antibiotic coverage and follow up.

2. Goal of the learning module

- a. Identify when abscess is fluctuant
- b. Demonstrate Incision and drainage

3. References

[Colyar, M. R. \(2015\). Abscesses Incision and Drainage. In M. R. Colyar, Advanced practice nursing procedures \(pp. 13-19\). Philadelphia, PA: F. A. Davis.](#)

4. Required Reading / Review

- a. CSI Webpage – “Suturing” PowerPoint Presentations
- b. [Cellulitis and skin abscess in adults: Treatment](#)

5. Required Procedure Competencies

- Gather needed equipment:
 - Curved hemostat
 - 11 blade scalpels for I&D
 - Tissue Forceps
 - Skin Simulation I&D Pad
- Practice Procedure
 - Examine abscess identify pointing
 - Palpate fluctuant area
 - Incise at pointing (enter at 90 degree angle)
 - State next steps (culture, packing, prescribing antibiotic coverage MRSA/strep)

Skill/Learning Demonstrated	
1	Demonstrate palpation of fluctuant mass
2	Demonstrate visual inspection of pointing of abscess
3	Demonstrate incision and drainage