AVOID wound infections - use your 5 moments for hand hygiene in wound management

**AVOID wound infections - use your 5 moments for hand hygiene in wound management**

**MOMENT 1:**
Wash hands before touching the patient

**MOMENT 2:**
Wash hands before clean/aseptic procedure
- Before physically examining the wound site, including before taking wound samples for microbiological investigations, if required
- Before remove stitches/ clips
- Before preparing for dressing wound
- Before replacing the wound dressing

**MOMENT 3:**
Wash hands after body fluid exposure risk
- Assess the local wound environment/wound bed for presence of infection and continue to monitor wound changes
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) and practice universal precautions

**MOMENT 4:**
Wash hands after touching the patient
- Avoid unnecessary touching of the wound site

**MOMENT 5:**
Wash hands after touching patient surroundings
- Ensure antibiotic therapy is based on wound microbiology and sensitivity results
- All open wounds will be colonized with bacteria, but antibiotic therapy is only required for those that are clinically infected

**HOLISTIC PATIENT ASSESSMENT**
Based on the "My 5 Moments for Hand Hygiene. Focus on caring for a patient with a post-operative wound" © World Health Organization 2016.