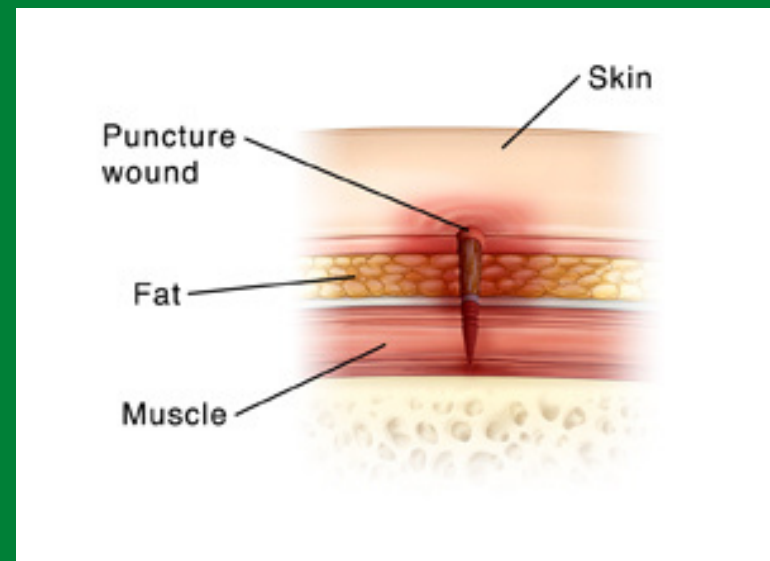
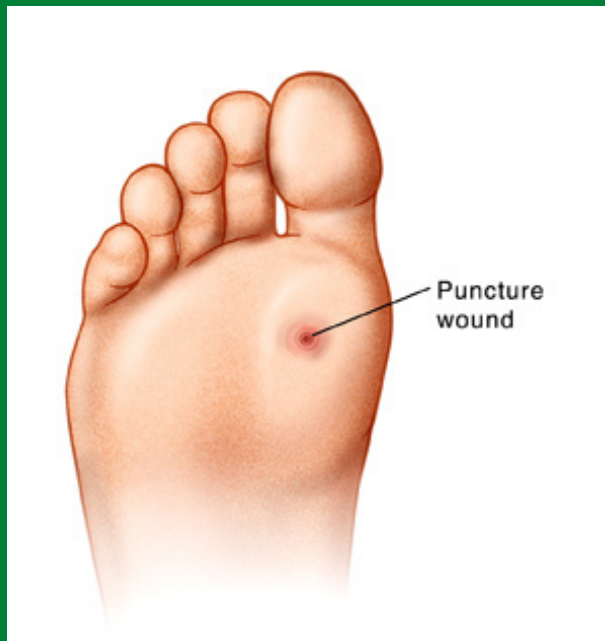


PUNCTURE WOUNDS

What is a Puncture Wound?

A puncture wound is a break in the skin caused by a traumatic injury which can result in infection. Most will remember when the event happened, the event usually is associated with localized pain, bleeding, and them trying to retrieve the foreign body (which can be any type of material or object) that is introduced into the foot by the puncture. However, in cases where patients have lost sensation in the foot, there might not be recollection of this event.



Symptoms Can Include:

- open sores on the foot
- pus
- drainage
- bleeding
- pain
- localized redness and swelling
- inability to put weight on foot
- red streaking on the skin
- an object visibly lodged in the foot

Treatment:

- An incision and drainage procedure may be necessary
- However, if the foreign body is present surgical removal is necessary.
- Depending on the severity of the case oral or IV antibiotics are a consideration as treatment
- An updated tetanus shot as needed.

Prevention:

- Protect your feet by wearing the appropriate shoes as much as possible in and outside of your home.
- It is especially important to avoid walking barefoot for people who have lost sensation in their feet.