

# Types of Wound Debridement

## 1. Autolytic debridement

- a. lysis of non-viable tissue by the body's natural enzymes and WBCs
- b. facilitated by a moist wound environment with intact vascularity and adequate neutrophil and leukocyte function
  - i. autolytic debridement won't be effective in an immunocompromised patient

## 2. Enzymatic debridement

- a. Collagenase (Santyl) - derived from an enzyme from clostridium bacteria
  - i. Silver and cadexomer iodine reduce collagenase activity

## 3. Biosurgical debridement - Maggot therapy

- a. larvae secrete proteolytic enzymes

## 4. Mechanical debridement

- a. Wet-to-dry dressing changes - a nonselective form of debridement
- b. Wound irrigation and pulsed lavage - 4-15 psi of pressure (enough to remove debris from the wound bed)
  - i. also can be accomplished with a 19g angiocath needle and a 35 mL syringe
- c. Ultrasonic Mist therapy

## 5. Sharp surgical debridement

- a. curette, scalpel, tissue nipper, hydrosurgical debridement