

(CELLULITIS) NURSING CARE PLAN

Medical Diagnosis: Cellulitis		
Subjective Data:	Nursing Intervention (ADPIE)	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain • Tenderness • Weakness 	Full skin assessment/mark edges with skin marker (note color, swelling, blisters)	To determine the severity of cellulitis. Marking the border of cellulitis can determine if it continues to spread and/or if antibiotic therapy is working
	Antibiotic Therapy/Pain medication	Many cellulitis cases are treated with PO antibiotics, but more serious cases may need to be treated in hospital with IV antibiotics NOTE: patient should take full course of antibiotics Pain meds- assess pt's pain level and give pain medication as needed
	Elevation of affected extremity	Elevating the affected extremity helps decrease swelling and speeds up recovery
Objective Data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redness (tends to expand) • Swelling • Warm to the touch • Fever/chills • Red spots • Blisters • Skin dimpling 	Assess VS/Labs/CT/MRI imaging possible	VS- patient can develop a fever Labs- CBC (WBC), Creatinine, CRP CT/MRI- if necrotizing fasciitis is a concern
	Proper Wound Care-Corticosteroid cream, Keeping the wound clean/dry with occlusive dressings Proper hand hygiene Clipping toenails	Corticosteroid cream-helps with inflammation Keeping the wound clean/dry and dressed with occlusive dressing avoids further infection Note: Toenails harbor bacteria
	Educating the patient/family	Throughout therapy, it is important to always educate the patient on cellulitis, medications, and any interventions being done.