



# AORN

## SURGICAL WOUND CLASSIFICATION POCKET CARD

### CLASS I/CLEAN

- Uninfected
- Respiratory, urinary, genital, or alimentary systems are NOT entered
- Primarily closed
- No breaks in sterility during surgery

### CLASS II/CLEAN-CONTAMINATED

- Respiratory, urinary, genital, or alimentary systems are entered under control
- No evidence of prior infection
- No breaks in sterility during surgery

### CLASS III/CONTAMINATED

- Open, fresh accidental wounds
- Major breaks in sterility during surgery
- Spillage from the GI tract
- Incisions with nonpurulent inflammation

### CLASS IV/DIRTY-INFECTED

- Old traumatic wounds
- Existing clinical infection
- Perforated viscera

### Notes

- Always confirm wound class with surgeon at the end of the surgery.
- Circulator's documentation of wound class should match surgeon's dictation.