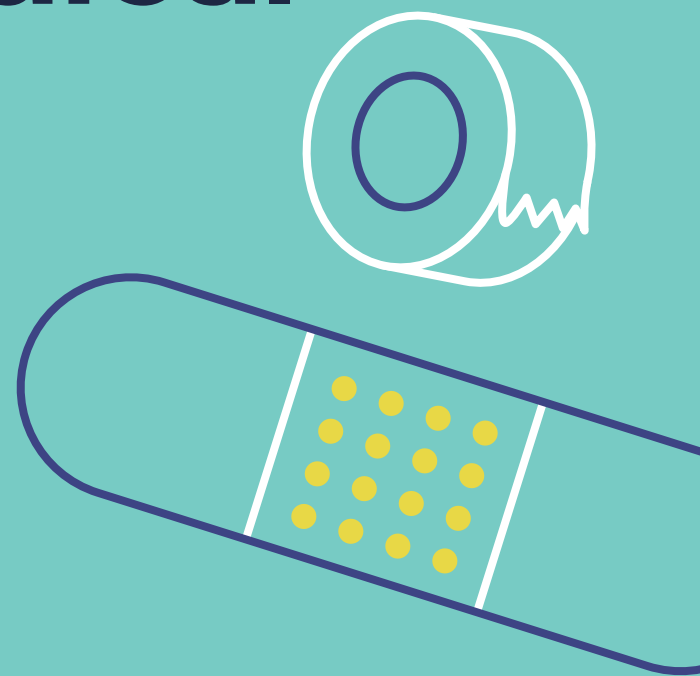


# How do I know it's serious? When to seek medical care for wounds

Wounds can get worse quickly and lead to life-threatening infections in your blood.

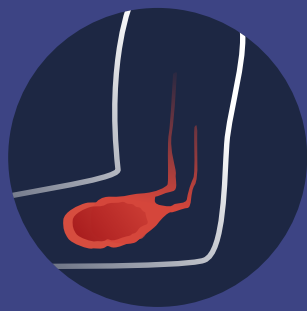
**Tell a trusted healthcare provider or harm reduction worker if you have a wound, no matter how small it is.**



Get medical care if your wound has any of the

## S.T.O.P. SIGNS

### Size, Shape or Streaks



- gets bigger (trace the outside of the reddened area with a marker to watch for this)
- swollen (puffy)
- edges are red or bleeding
- red streaks (painful reddish lines coming from wound or red stripes up the skin)

### Temperature



- feels warm or hot to touch
- you have a fever

### Odour



- smells bad or different

### Pain or Pus



- hurts more
- liquid or green/yellow pus

**Your health matters. You deserve respectful care.**