

# Types of wounds

A **wound** is a violation of the connection of the skin, mucous membrane or other tissue. For the wound, we describe the localization, size, shape, direction, edges and depth of the damage.

## Distribution of wounds

Wounds can be divided into:

- **simple** – they only damage the surface layers;
- **complicated** – they also damage deep structures and organs;
- **penetrating** – they penetrate into body cavities.

According to contamination of the wound with dirt, we divide:

- **clean wounds**;
- **mechanically contaminated wounds**;
- **aseptic wounds** (i.e. biologically clean);
- *'infected wounds*;
- **poisoned wounds** by various poisons (chemical, animal);

Types of wounds according to the type of damage:

- **cut wound** (*vulnus scissum*) – caused by the pressure and pull of a sharp object, bleeding and burning pain;
- **secant wound** (*vulnus sectum*) – caused by the impact of a sharp object, even deeper structures can be bruised;
- **puncture wound** (*vulnus punctum*) – caused by penetration of a sharp object deep into the body, risk of damage to deep structures and organs and infection;
- **gunshot wound** (*vulnus sclopetarium*);
  - projectile wound;
  - shrapnel wound;
- **bite wound** (*vulnus morsum*) – can mimic a stab wound or contusion, infection and poor wound healing often occur;
- **contusion wound** (*vulnus contusum*) – caused by compression of soft tissues between a solid object and a person's own skeleton;
- **laceration wound** (*vulnus lacerum*) – caused by pulling and subsequent tearing of the skin, it bleeds little.

## Image gallery



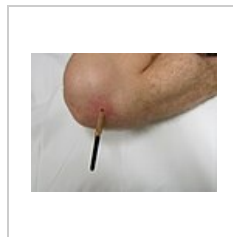
Open wound  
(diphtheria)



Infected puncture  
wound



Gunshot wound



Stab wound

## Links

### Related articles

- Types of sutures in surgery

### References

- ZEMAN, Miroslav. *Chirurgická propedeutika*. 2. edition. Grada, 2000. 524 pp. ISBN 80-7169-705-2.