**Wounds and Wound Type**

Wounds can be categorized as:

* Closed: bruise, hematoma, and contusion
* Open: abrasion, erosion, puncture, incision, laceration, and burn

Wound type is an important indicator of the vascular supply, degree of contamination, and viability of surrounding tissue, which reliably determine the best mode of management. For example, relatively uncontaminated incisions and lacerations, such as shearing injuries produced by sharp objects, can heal by primary intention, because tissue devitalization and risk of infection are minimal.

Conversely, primary closure of crushing injuries, such as those sustained on limb entrapment, is usually not successful because of the extent of microvascular disruption and tissue trauma that inhibits local defense mechanisms, increasing the risk of infection. Indeed, a lower bacterial load is required to cause infection after blunt trauma compared with other types of wounds. In these cases, second-intention healing is often the best alternative.

