

# Ostomy - Glossary of Terms

## **Ceramide**

A natural component of the human skin that links the cells of the stratum corneum together to form a waterproof protective barrier. This helps prevent water loss that can lead to skin damage and dryness.

## **CeraPlus skin barrier**

An extended wear skin barrier that has all the basic characteristics of an ostomy skin barrier (adhesion, absorption and erosion resistance) and is infused with ceramide.

## **Closed pouch**

A pouch without an opening at the bottom. Quick and easy to discard. It must be removed to be emptied.

## **Colostomy**

An ostomy (surgical opening) created in the colon, part of the large intestine.

## **ComfortWear (pouch) panels**

ComfortWear (pouch) panels provide a soft cloth between the pouch film and the skin.

## **Convex skin barrier**

May be used when the stoma does not protrude from the abdomen. The skin barrier is shaped to press more deeply around the stoma.

## **Cut-to-fit skin barrier**

A skin barrier that can be customized to a needed size and shape. Ideal for stomas that are not round or stomas that are still changing size.

## **Drainable pouch**

A pouch with an opening at the bottom. An integrated closure system or plastic clamp is used to keep the pouch closed until it's time to empty it.

## **Filter**

Lets gas but not odor out of the pouch.

## **Flange**

The plastic ring in a two-piece ostomy system that is used to connect the skin barrier and pouch together.

## **Flat skin barrier**

May be used when the stoma protrudes from the abdomen.

## **Flexextend skin barrier**

A synthetic skin barrier designed to be durable and the most resistant to liquid discharge. Flexextend is an example of an extended wear skin barrier.

## **FlexWear skin barrier**

A synthetic skin barrier designed to be worn more than one day. A FlexWear skin barrier is designed to be more resistant to breakdown than a SoftFlex skin barrier.

**Floating flange**

Type of skin barrier flange found on Hollister two-piece pouching systems that allows you to put your fingers under the skin barrier flange while attaching the pouch.

**FormaFlex skin barrier**

An extended wear skin barrier that can be stretched to fit the size and shape of the stoma without the use of scissors. It is a barrier option in the New Image two-piece pouching system.

**Ileostomy**

A surgically created opening in the last portion of the small intestine.

**Irrigation**

A procedure sometimes used by individuals with a colostomy to control bowel elimination. It is not for everyone with a colostomy and requires special equipment and instruction by a knowledgeable healthcare provider.

**Lock 'n Roll closure**

Integrated system for closing the bottom of drainable pouches. Utilizes plastic interlocking fasteners to create a secure closure. Found on New Image and Premier drainable pouches.

**Medical Adhesive-Related Skin Injury (MARS)**

Skin injury related to medical adhesive usage.

**Odour-barrier pouch**

An odour-barrier pouch is highly resistant to letting odours pass through the pouch film. The odour-barrier quality increases confidence when wearing a pouch.

**Peristomal Moisture-Associated Skin Damage (PMASD)**

Skin exposure to effluent from the ostomy, resulting in inflammation and erosion of the skin.

**Pre-sized skin barrier**

A skin barrier that is already cut to the proper size.

**SoftFlex skin barrier**

A synthetic skin barrier that provides gentle adhesive attachment to the skin. SoftFlex is designed to limit skin damage with frequent removal and can be changed daily (or more often).

**Stoma**

A surgically created opening connected to the gastrointestinal or urinary tract. Also known as an ostomy. The stoma is pink and moist and doesn't have feeling.

**Urostomy**

A surgically created opening into the urinary system; drains urine and sometimes mucus.

**Urostomy pouches**

Pouches with a drain valve at the bottom so urine can be emptied quickly and easily.

**Wear time**

Wear time is the length of time a product can be worn before failure. Wear time varies widely based upon a variety of factors.