

**Table 1.5** Classifications of Open (Exposed) Wounds

Classification	Description
Abrasion	Broad scraping or shearing off of the superficial skin layers with sliding of the skin against a rough or high-friction surface.
Blister	Separation and accumulation of fluid or blood between superficial skin layers secondary to repetitive friction or shearing movements.
Incision	A cut through all layers of the skin by a sharp object or instrument (e.g., knife), resulting in smooth, even wound edges.
Laceration	A tearing of the skin by blunt trauma to the skin over a bony prominence, resulting in jagged, uneven wound edges.
Puncture	A small disruption in the skin, caused by a sharp, penetrating object. Puncture wounds should be carefully examined for possible injury to underlying structures.
Avulsion	A tearing off or complete disassociation of a portion of skin.
Compound fracture/dislocation	Disruption in the skin surface secondary to penetration by a displaced fracture fragment or joint dislocation.