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Our clinical experience using a new dressing* in the treatment of difficult wounds

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AIMS

The study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of a biocellulose – HydroBalance sterile antimicrobial dressing * for the healing of difficult wounds and pain reduction.

METHODS

Wound healing and pain management were considered as parameters for evaluating the efficacy of the product.

Patients included
9 patients (2 males and 7 females), aged between 38 and 86 years (mean age:70.89), followed by the department of Plastic Surgery of S. Giovanni Battista University Hospital in Torino (Italy).
All the wounds were at the lower extremities (3 at the foot and 6 at the leg).
The mean score of Visual Numeric Score (VNS) at the starting point was 4 (min.2 – max.7).
All cases treated were affected by chronic vascular diseases or diabetic ulcers that had not benefited during the last year from surgery or others topical dressings.

Patients excluded
High exudating, markedly infected and wounds with dimensions larger than 4 x 4cm were excluded from the study.

Period
From April to December 2010.

Treatment
Dressing changes were carried out twice weekly: once in the hospital, and the second time at home by relatives or the patients themselves, without difficulties.
The secondary dressings that were used: polyurethane foam, idrogel, tubular padding bandage# and cohesive bandage¤.

Mean wound area dimensions
7 cm^2 (min. 1 x 0.5 cm – max. 4 x 4 cm)

Treatment mean duration
68 days (min. 18 days - max.100 days).

RESULTS

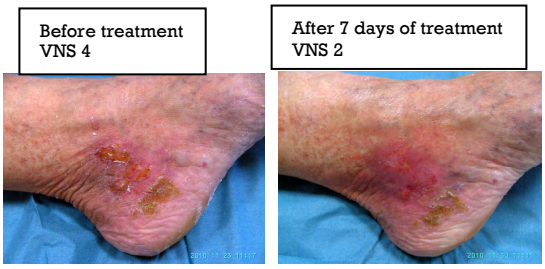

Fig. Patient suffering from a wound of the medial malleolus for 12 months, treated without success with others topic dressings

There were no any adverse reactions to the dressing!
- One patient (11.1%) was excluded from the study due to his poor compliance (after 18 days).
- Seven patients (77.8%) are in healing process with a decreased wound area (of 70%) and pain reduction (of 100%).
- Another patient (11.1%) had a complete healing (100%) during the period of treatment after 40 days.

The mean of the scores for the pain decreased significantly (from 4 to 0) and the mean of the wound area decreased approximately 70% in 80 days.

CONCLUSIONS

The dressing was effective, well tolerated and painless. A good compliance was also shown for the home treatment and dressing change.

*SUPRASORB® X + PHMB, LOHMANN & RAUSCHER is composed of: - biocellulose (3-5%)- Water (95-97%)- Polihexamethylene biguanide (PHMB = 0.3%)
#TGSoft® LOHMANN&RAUSCHER is a padding tubular bandage composed of 85% cotton and 15% polyammide
¤Haftelast, LOHMANN&RAUSCHER is a cohesive bandage composed of cottono, polyammide and natural latex.