

Clinical experiences with a HydroBalance wound dressing* in the Netherlands

A.Vijverberg Houdijk¹, S. Sivro¹, M. Schmitz²

¹ Flevo Ziekenhuis, Almere, Netherland

² Lohmann & Rauscher GmbH & Co. KG, Rengsdorf, Germany

Introduction:

In addition to treatment of the underlying disease, local wound management plays an essential role in the therapy of chronic wounds. For this purpose it is necessary to create and maintain a local wound environment that will efficiently promote wound healing.

One new approach are products with a broad use in the different stages of exudation and wound healing, especially the ability to absorb exudate and simultaneously release moisture („HydroBalance“) according to the needs of the wound as soon as the subjective pain reduction.

By means of this prospective open mono-center study, these effects and the handling of a new HydroBalance wound dressing* were evaluated.

Material and methods:

Patients with the following cornerstones were included: light to moderate exudation; various indications including diabetic foot syndrome (DFS), lower leg ulcer, skin graft donor sites, gangrenous pyoderma, secondary healing abdominal wounds.

Surgical debridement was previously performed as necessary; no other wound-cleansing agents were used. One case involved the combined use of maggots and the HydroBalance wound dressing*.

In addition to treating the underlying disease, therapy involved a modern moist wound management, consisting of the HydroBalance wound dressing* plus a secondary dressing adapted to the individual degree of exudation (film dressing** for light-to-moderate exudation; foam dressing*** or absorbent dressing for moderate exudation).

Treated wound patients in total Flevoziekenhuis Almere

Treated wounds / year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Hospital	2.109	4.096	2.788	3.942	4.453
via OR	17	30	7	11	15
Non-hospital surg. / orthop.	132	260	121	209	138
Special wounds non-hospital	0	0	130	84	97
Diab. foot syndrom non-hospital	0	0	0	41	60
Dermat. patients non-hospital	0	0	0	106	103
Home care visits	28	130	87	33	51
wounds, in total	2.269	4.486	3.126	4.415	4.902
Appearance of pressure sores	319	235	229	236	181
Treatments with maggots	0	0	44	44	26
Treatments with V.A.C.	189	115	38	67	81

* = Suprasorb® X+PHMB

** = Suprasorb® P n.a.

*** = Rosidal® K

Annual Meeting of the European Wound Management Association (EWMA), Glasgow 02. – 04. May 2007

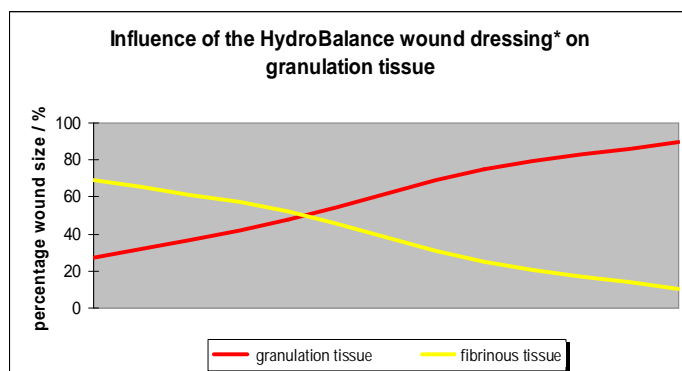
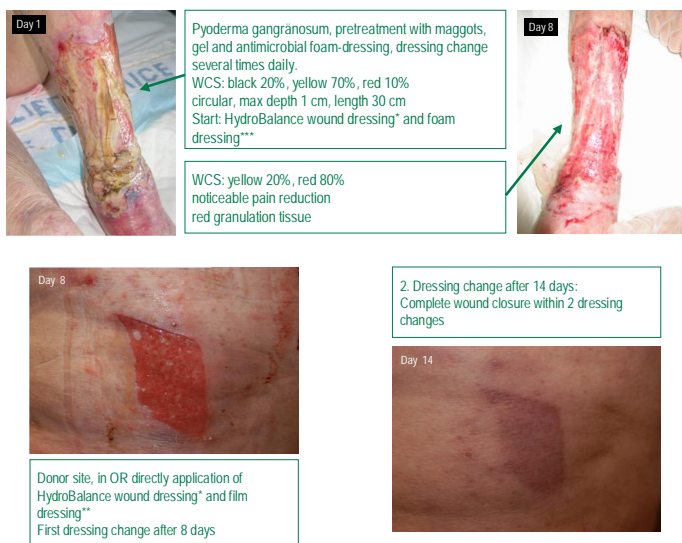


Fig. 1



Results:

At baseline, the average proportion of red granulation tissue was 36,7%; after 15,5 days it had increased to 85,1% (WCS-scale = Woundcare consultant Society-NL). The averaged dressing stay was 4,9 (min.= 2, max.=7).

During the treatment a reduction of exudate amount was observed as a sign of positiv reaction to the local wound management.

All of the patients reported a decline in pain levels. A positive skin care effect („washing effect“) was documented.

Discussion:

If required, the HydroBalance wound dressing* may be combined with specific treatments such as collagen or maggots. This wound dressing is a product that covers a wide range of indications and provides multiple benefits to the user and the patient alike.