

FIRST RESULTS - CASE SERIES DEMONSTRATING THE PERFORMANCE AND SAFETY OF A NOVEL SUPERABSORBING DRESSING IN HIGH EXUDING CHRONIC WOUNDS

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AIM

Polyacrylates have been already widely used in superabsorbent wound dressings. They are ideal for absorbing and retaining large amounts of liquids and therefore used for the treatment of heavy exuding wounds. The design of the marketed superabsorbent dressing² was changed. A broad border in the shape of a “manta” is one of the features for a better ergonomic behavior and application. Due to the use of another SAP core a higher absorption rate and better retention capacity should be achieved even under compression. A wound contact and distribution layer on the wound oriented side and a clothing protection layer on the back side complete the design of the new superabsorbent dressing¹.

The performance and safety of the new product should be investigated during a case series on patients with moderate to very high exuding wounds.

METHODS

A case series was planned in 5 centers in Germany to investigate the performance and safety of the new superabsorbent wound dressing¹. Up to 10 patients per center should be treated according to the instruction for use up to three weeks. The product and a questionnaire referring to the wound status, performance and safety of the dressing was provided. The status of the wound should be evaluated every week including a photographic documentation of the wounds. The questionnaire should be filled out retrospectively after three weeks.



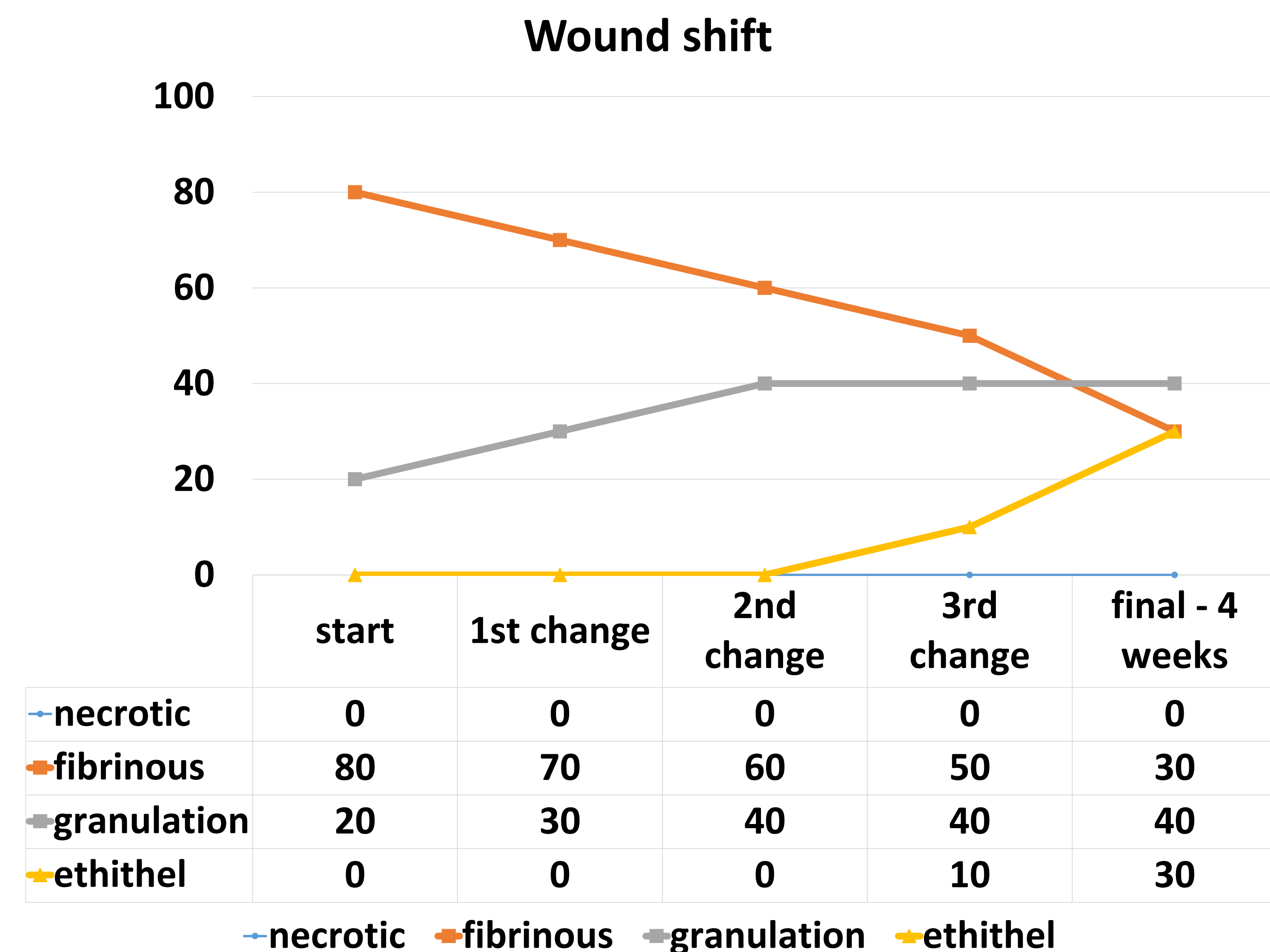
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RESULTS

14 patients were treated (10 leg ulcer, 4 diabetic foot syndrome) successfully with the new product¹ without any side effects.

INDICATION: LEG ULCER

The 10 patients with leg ulcers showed after application of the new superabsorbent dressing¹ a reduction of the wound size and intact wound surrounding skin after three weeks. Exudation was high in the beginning but decreased to moderate or light exudation after three weeks. Absorption capacity of the wound dressing was sufficient in all cases. In parallel the condition of the wound surrounding skin with maceration improved and after three weeks the maceration was gone and the condition of the skin normalized (no maceration, no dryness). This was accompanied with decrease in irritation and inflammation, apparent smell disappeared. Also pain was reduced. For example one patient had a VAS score of 8 in the beginning decreasing to 5,3,2, and 1 documented at every dressing change. In general dressing changes were performed once a day up to three times a week dependent on the exudation. The superabsorbent dressing was used as primary dressing as well as secondary dressing in combination with a hydrofibre and/or compression therapy. The dressing changes were atraumatic and application of the dressing could be done easily without causing folds or pressure marks.



Dressing application



Fixation with bandage

¹ Vliwasorb Pro, Lohmann & Rauscher International GmbH & Co. KG

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INDICATION: LEG ULCER

Case:

74 years old male patient leg ulcer due to chronic venous insufficiency

Superabsorbend wound dressing¹ as primary dressing, fixation with bandages

The patient reported that the dressing was easy to apply and to fix, the absorption capacity was good, the wound condition improved and the wearing comfort was good.



Start



after 1 week



after 2 weeks



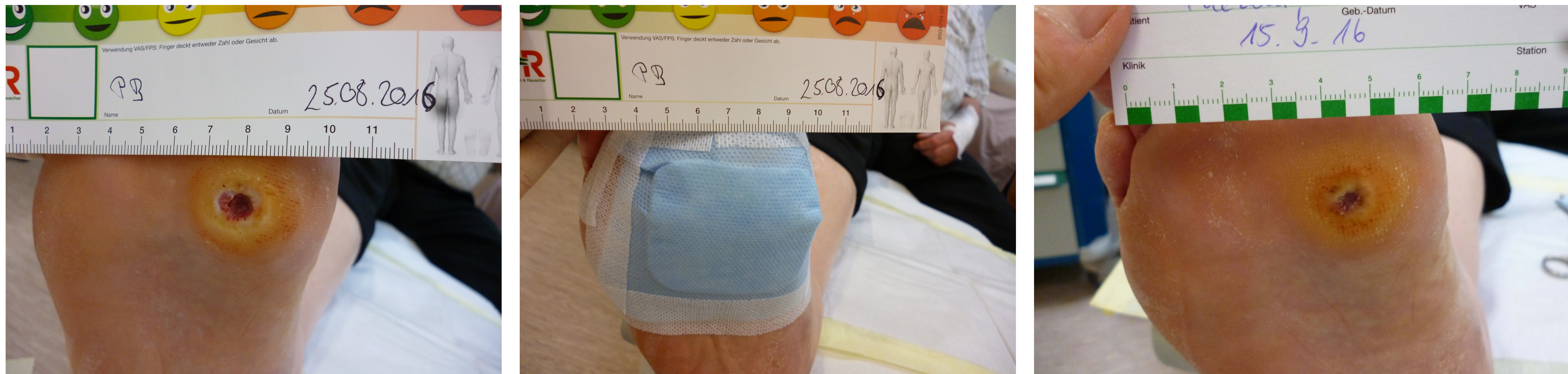
after 4 weeks

| | At start | After 1 week | After 2 weeks | After 4 weeks |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Wound size | 7,2 cm ² | 7,2 cm ² | 5,8 cm ² | 0,4 cm ² |
| Exudation | Very high | Moderate | Moderate | Light |
| Maceration | Moderate | Minimum | No | No |

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INDICATION: DIABETIC FOOT SYNDROME

One of the patients with diabetic foot syndrome showed a significant wound shift (start: 70% of fibrinous tissue and 30% of granulation tissue; after three weeks: 10% fibrinous tissue, 80 % granulation tissue and 10 % epithelization) indicating wound healing with improved wound surrounding skin. The wound dressing was comfortable and with a good absorption capacity. The dressing changes were without damage of the wound ground. Exudation slightly decreased, no odor could be noticed and the dressing was easy to apply even at difficult locations without causing folds. These findings could be confirmed in the other patients.



CONCLUSIONS

The new designed superabsorbent dressing¹ showed a good absorption capacity in high exuding wounds. In all cases the wound healing could be supported which could be confirmed by wound shift and reduced wound area. The dressing was easy to apply, comfortable and tolerable.