Leg ulcers

Compared to an alginate dressing
- AQUACEL® dressing resulted in faster healing times ($P=0.053$) in patients who healed
- AQUACEL® dressing reduced ulcer area ($P=0.48$)

Study details

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of patients</td>
<td>131</td>
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<td>Inclusion criteria</td>
<td>Patients with moderately to heavily exuding leg ulcers were invited provided they were suitable for treatment with either dressing</td>
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<td>Wound type</td>
<td>Moderately to heavily exuding leg ulcers of varying etiology</td>
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Design

Open, prospective, randomised, controlled, multicentre evaluation in a protocol of care including AQUACEL® dressing with one including alginate dressing in the management of leg ulcers over a period of 12 weeks.

Results

- Of the patients who healed, those in the AQUACEL® dressing group healed 14 days faster than those in the alginate group ($P=0.053$)
- Ease of removal was rated by the investigator as excellent in 51% of the AQUACEL® dressing group versus 24% in the alginate group ($P=0.006$)
- Ability to contain exudate was rated by the investigator excellent in 44% of the AQUACEL® dressing group compared to 20% in the alginate group ($P=0.002$)
- Patients managed with AQUACEL® dressing experienced a mean reduction in ulcer area of 516.86mm² compared to 347.30mm² for patients managed with an alginate dressing ($P=0.48$)

Conclusion

“Significant differences in terms of dressing performance, dressing wear time, ... have been shown and indicate that this [AQUACEL® dressing] will confer many benefits to the overall management of patients with chronic leg ulceration in the community setting.”

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