

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

Publication	Cost and dressing evaluation of Hydrofiber and alginate dressings in the management of community-based patients with chronic leg ulceration. Harding KG, Price P, Robinson B, Thomas S, Hofman D. Wounds 2001;13(6):229-236
Number of patients	131
Inclusion criteria	Patients with moderately to heavily exuding leg ulcers were invited provided they were suitable for treatment with either dressing
Wound type	Moderately to heavily exuding leg ulcers of varying etiology

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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