

## AQUACEL® Ag Surgical Cover Dressing (SCD)

Value Analysis Committee Product Information Kit







# The right dressing can make a difference AQUACEL® Ag SCD reduces periprosthetic joint infection (PJI) and improves patient outcomes



PJI following total joint arthroplasty (TJA) is one of the most devastating postsurgical complications and continues to be a challenge for many healthcare organizations as the demand for TJA rises.<sup>1,2</sup>

PJI treatment often requires prolonged hospital stays, intravenous (IV) antibiotics, and additional surgical procedures. In addition, wound infection contributes to delayed healing, increasing the burden to patients and the cost of their healthcare.<sup>3</sup> Although much work has been done to guide clinical practice in the prevention and treatment of PJI, wound management is often overlooked. Dressing technology plays a vital role in preventing PJI following TJA and should be given due attention.<sup>4</sup>

AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD is an occlusive, skin-friendly surgical dressing infused with ionized silver for greater antimicrobial protection. The Hydrofiber<sup>®</sup> technology employed in AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD allows it to micro-contour to the wound bed—minimizing voids where bacteria can grow while maintaining the optimum moisture balance for healing. AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD is flexible, absorbent, and waterproof, so patients can shower shortly after the dressing is properly applied.

#### Over the next 18 years,

the demand for primary total hip arthroplasty (THA) is estimated to grow by 174%, and the demand for primary total knee arthroplasty (TKA) by 673%<sup>5</sup>

Recent clinical studies confirm that use of AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD significantly reduces the incidence of PJI after TJA<sup>6</sup> and increases patient satisfaction.<sup>4</sup>

These are important outcomes to consider given the demand for more stringent reporting from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the impact that reporting has on Hospital Compare (http://www.hospitalcompare. hhs.gov) and the Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Program.<sup>7a,b</sup>

New initiatives, including the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS: http://www.hcahpsonline.org) survey<sup>8</sup> and in-patient quality reporting (IQR) of hospital risk-standardized complication and readmission rates (RSCRs and RSRRs) following elective primary THA and TKA,<sup>9</sup> have been implemented as new standards for tracking patient satisfaction and quality of care. Adherence to these reporting guidelines will directly affect Medicare payments and the reputations of healthcare facilities. With the projected rise in TJA over the next 18 years, an increased emphasis on patient satisfaction, strict monitoring of RSCRs and RSRRs, and the onset of VBP, improving postoperative surgical dressings is a simple and cost-effective measure that can have a profound impact on the financial success of acute care facilities.

#### **Overview of In-Patient Quality Reporting**

- National Quality Forum (NQF: http://www.qualityforum.org/qps/) measure #1550 estimates hospital RSCRs following elective primary THA and TKA, including wound infection and PJIs<sup>9</sup>
- NQF measure #1551 estimates hospitals' 30-day all-cause RSRRs following elective primary THA and TKA<sup>9</sup>

## Value-Based Purchasing: Changing the way hospitals are paid for services to Medicare beneficiaries<sup>7a</sup>

- National pay-for-performance system<sup>10</sup>
- VBP-eligible hospitals are scored based on achievement and improvement in clinical measures and patient satisfaction
- Directly impacts incentive payments for acute care hospitals
- 2% penalty applied if IQR is not submitted

Weighted Value of VBP Domains for CMS Acute Care Hospital Evaluation<sup>7a</sup>



\*A detailed listing of the 12 clinical process-of-care measures and 8 patient experience-of-care dimensions is available at: 1) http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/hospital-value-based-purchasing/index.html, 2) http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/2011/04/valuebasedpurchasing04292011b.html, and 3) http://www.hcahpsoneline.org/home.aspx

AQUACELAg Surgical

#### AQUACEL® Ag SCD: Not all silver dressings are created equal

Combining flexible, skin-friendly hydrocolloid technology; patented, microcontouring Hydrofiber<sup>®</sup> technology with ionic silver; and waterproof polyurethane film, AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD helps improve outcomes by creating an optimum healing environment and providing broad-spectrum antimicrobial activity.

#### Why purchase AQUACEL® Ag SCD for an orthopedic surgical unit?

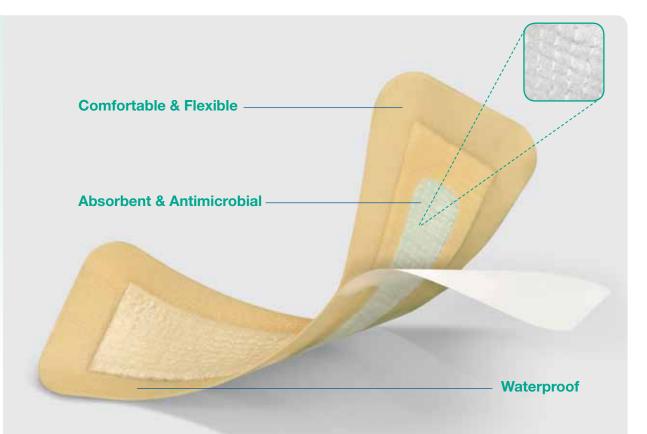
To Reduce Incidence of PJI	To Improve Patient Outcomes	To Reduce Costs
New research supports that AQUACEL <sup>®</sup> Ag SCD can reduce the incidence of PJI by as much as 76% compared to standard gauze dressing <sup>6</sup>	Reducing infection decreases the need for lengthy hospital stays, treating infections with IV antibiotics, and revision surgeries. AQUACEL <sup>®</sup> Ag SCD also promotes healing and reduces the average surgical dressing wear time <sup>4</sup>	Treating PJI is one of the most resource-consumptive procedures in orthopedic surgery with costs as high as \$100,000 per case. <sup>11-13</sup> Additionally, new CMS guidelines limit and/or eliminate reimbursement for hospital-acquired infections

## What are the competitive advantages of implementing AQUACEL® Ag SCD?

Antimicrobial Protection	Flexible and Skin-Friendly	Waterproof
Hydrofiber <sup>®</sup> technology with ionic silver micro-contours to the wound bed—providing sustained antimicrobial activity for up to 7 days <sup>*14-16</sup>	Protects periwound skin by helping reduce risk of maceration and blistering; allows for pain-free removal	Polyurethane film provides a waterproof barrier that allows patients to shower after surgery

\*As demonstrated in vitro

In one of the largest clinical studies to date, AQUACEL Ag SCD was proven to reduce the incidence of PJI by as much as 76% compared with standard gauze dressing<sup>6</sup>



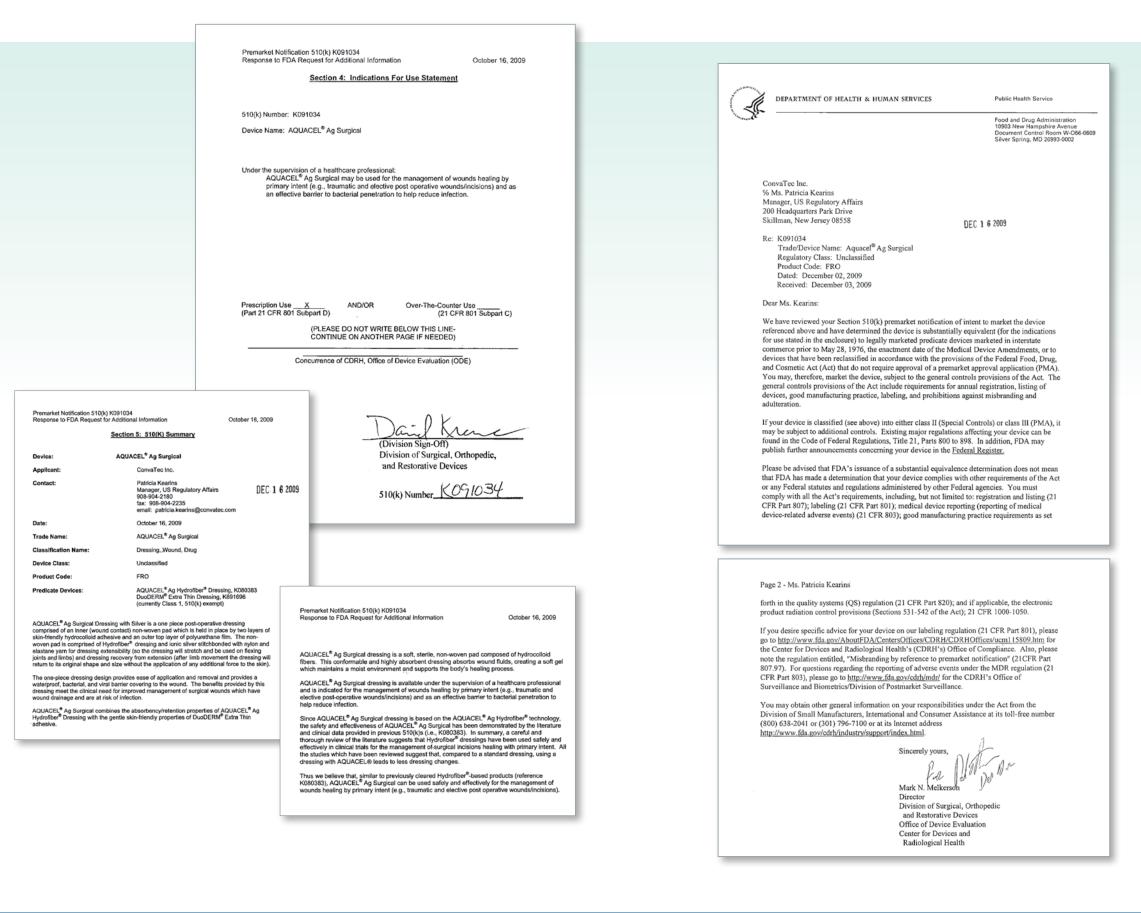
Features	Benefits			
Hydrocolloid technology	Provides comfort and flexibility			
Hydrofiber <sup>®</sup> technology	Micro-contours to wound bed, eliminating voids where bacteria can grow; locks in wound exudate and removes it from wound bed <sup>*14-16</sup>			
lonic silver infusion	Releases ionic silver in a controlled manner, providing sustained antimicrobial activity for up to 7 days <sup>*14-16</sup>			
Polyurethane film	Creates a waterproof barrier that helps prevent viral and bacterial infection <sup>*14</sup>			

\*As demonstrated in vitro

AQUACEL® Ag SCD with ionic silver is indicated for moderate to high exuding wounds that are infected or at risk of infection

## 510(k) Clearance





## **Clinical Information**



New research indicates that AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD plays an important role in reducing the incidence of PJI and improving the patient experience

The AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag Surgical Dressing With Ionic Silver Reduces the Rate of Acute Periprosthetic Joint Infection Following Total Joint Arthroplasty<sup>6</sup>

Cai J, Karam J, Parvizi J, Smith EB, Sharkey PF

#### Methodology

This retrospective study was conducted at Philadelphia's Rothman Institute by performing chart reviews to compare the overall incidence of PJI in 2 groups of patients who had undergone TJA. The study group of 903 patients received an AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD (applied in sterile conditions in the operating room) that remained in place for 5 days. The control group of 875 patients received a standard dressing of sterile gauze applied over the incision site and secured with adhesive tape in the operating room.

#### **Results**

**AQUACEL®** Ag SCD reduced the incidence of PJI by 76%. The study group had an incidence of acute PJI of 0.4% (4/903) compared with the control group treated with standard dressing, which had a 1.7% (15/875) incidence of acute PJI.

#### Conclusion

According to Dr. Peter Sharkey, "the systematic use of AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD would be an effective measure to prevent the occurrence of acute PJI following TJA."

Real-world clinical experience reveals benefits of AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD compared with tape and gauze dressing<sup>4</sup>

#### **Overview**

As part of an initiative to improve infection control protocols at NorthShore University HealthSystem, Dr. Kudrna and colleagues assessed the clinical efficacy of AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD to reduce postsurgical complications compared with standard surgical dressing.

#### Methodology

A group of 482 patients undergoing primary THA who received AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD were compared to a retrospective matched cohort of 482 patients who received a standard surgical dressing consisting of gauze and Elastoplast<sup>®</sup> tape. The rates of blistering, number of dressing changes, and overall incidence of surgical-site infections (SSIs) were carefully reviewed for both groups.

#### Results

No SSIs occurred in the AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD group (0%) compared with a 1.6% incidence of SSIs in the standard dressing group. A marked reduction in surgicalsite blistering was also achieved in the AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD group (0.2% vs 11.4% in the standard dressing group). Additionally, the number of dressing changes (2.2 for AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD vs 5.1 for standard dressing) as well as the average wear time of the surgical dressing to wound healing (9.3 days for AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD vs 13.4 days for standard dressing) were considerably lower in the AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD group.

#### Conclusion

Dr. James Kudrna and his team of researchers found that "...the use of AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag Surgical Dressing compared to a standard surgical dressing...diminished the rate of wound complications, blister formation, and surgical site infections..."

Interim analysis of a new study indicates that AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD reduces wound complications and improves patient satisfaction<sup>4</sup>

#### **Overview**

In an ongoing prospective randomized study, Dr. Springer and associates are evaluating the use of AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD compared to a tape-and-gauze dressing (Primapore<sup>™</sup>) used as the current standard surgical dressing at OrthoCarolina.

#### Methodology

The study involves 150 patients undergoing THA and 150 undergoing TKA that are being randomized prospectively to 1 of the 2 surgical dressings (AQUACEL® Ag SCD or Primapore). Outcomes for the study include wound complications, number of dressing changes, blister rates, overall patient and nursing satisfaction, and an economic analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the surgical dressings.

#### Results

Although the study continues, interim analysis of the first 150 patients that underwent TKA demonstrated fewer dressing changes and a significant (*P*<.02) reduction in overall wound complications associated with AQUACEL® Ag SCD compared with Primapore. In addition, no patients in the AQUACEL® Ag SCD group required additional surgical procedures, whereas 2 patients receiving the Primapore did. Patient satisfaction, defined as patients' perception of hygiene, sterility, and comfort, was also more favorable toward AQUACEL® Ag SCD than Primapore.

Competitive Product Comparison



#### **Competitive Product Overview**

In vitro studies have shown that AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD offers distinct advantages over other silver-impregnated dressings. The Hydrofiber<sup>®</sup> technology locks in wound exudate and safely removes it from the wound bed and surrounding area.<sup>14</sup> This protects those surfaces from potential maceration. Hydrofiber<sup>®</sup> transforms into a clear, soft gel once it absorbs fluid, allowing it to micro-contour to the wound bed and fill "dead space" where bacteria can proliferate.<sup>17</sup> This gelling feature also allows AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD to respond effectively to different wound conditions, maintaining a favorable wound-healing environment and providing increased silver ion availability "on demand."<sup>14</sup>

#### Product Comparison – A Qualitative Assessment of Key Product Attributes

	AQUACEL® Ag SCD	Mepilex® Ag Border	Silverlon®	Acticoat® 7
Silver-impregnated	~	~	~	~
Sustains antimicrobial activity for up to 7 days	~	~	<b>v</b>	~
Waterproof	~	~		~
Fully occlusive	~			
Hydrofiber <sup>©</sup> technology	~			
Micro-contours to wound bed, locking in fluid and sequestering bacteria	~			
Responds to changing wound conditions by forming a cohesive gel	~			
Proven to reduce PJI by 76% vs standard dressing <sup>6</sup>	~			

In vitro studies have demonstrated that AQUACEL Ag SCD conforms to a simulated wound surface better than Meplilex Ag dressing, providing greater control over the growth and spread of bacteria under the dressing<sup>17-19</sup>



#### AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag SCD Available Sizes and Product Order Codes

SKU	UPC	Dressing Size	For Incisions Up to	Dressings per Box
412009	76845511116	3.5" x 3.75" (9cm x 9.5cm)	1.5" (4cm)	10
412010	76845511119	3.5" x 6" (9cm x 15cm)	3.5" (9cm)	10
412011	76845511122	3.5" x 9.75" (9cm x 24.8cm)	6.5" (17cm)	10
420670	768455125111	3.5" x 12" (9cm x 30cm)	8.5" (22cm)	10
412012	76845511125	3.5" x 13.75" (9cm x 34.9cm)	10.5" (27cm)	10

#### **Ordering Information**

Convatec Products Website: www.convatec.com

Customer Service:

1-800-422-8811

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To find out more about AQUACEL<sup>®</sup> Ag Surgical Cover Dressings, visit www.convatec.com or call 1-800-422-8811.



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