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EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF A NOVEL ANTISEPTIC SUPER-OXIDIZED SOLUTION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF WIDE POST-SURGICAL LESIONS IN THE INFECTED DIABETIC FOOT

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Aim: A novel super-oxidised solution* was evaluated for the treatment of wide post-surgical infected ulcers of the diabetic foot (DF).

Methods: 18 diabetic inpatients (Group A), all with post-surgical lesions >5 cm² without ischaemia or infection were dressed with super-oxidised solution* renewed once daily via a irrigation catheter and a sterile syringe, and were compared with 15 patients that had been previously treated with diluted povidone iodine (Group B). Both sets of patients also received standard systemic antibiotic therapy as per the practice in this Centre, and local surgical debridement. Patients had weekly assessments till wounds had re-epithelialised completely.

Results: Patients in group A had a shorter healing time (144.6±39.2 vs 212.3±67.8 days, p = 0.00361), duration of antibiotic therapy (74.7±32.1 vs 129.6±54.4 days, p = 0.01373) and a higher healing rate at 6 months compared with those in Group B (87.5% vs 51.4%, p = 0.00827). Recurrence of infection, requirement for debridement procedures were significantly less frequent during follow-up in Group A patients (4 vs 9, p = 0.00154) when compared with those in Group B, as well as minor amputations (10 vs 18, p = 0.00296). no adverse events were recorded in Group A during follow-up.

Discussion: The use of super-oxidised solution* as a local dressing inserted in a comprehensive strategy encompassing local and systemic therapies may have a role in reducing healing time and complications in patients with diabetes who have post-surgical lesions of DF.

*Dermacy™ Wound Care (D™WC), Oculus Innovative Sciences, Petaluma, CA

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WOUND BED PREPARATION: AN APPROACH TO BRAZILIAN NURSING PRACTICE

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The chronic wounds are an important Public Health issue in Brazil due to the late diagnosis and, as a consequence, a delay in the healing process.

The evaluation of these wounds is an essential tool for the multiprofessional team work, specially the nursing personnel, and this also contributes to the acceleration of the healing process. In Brazil there is no agreement on how the wounds should be evaluated.

This study's objective is to investigate the nurses' knowledge of Wound Bed Preparation concept. This is a descriptive and exploratory study and it's part of a master's degree dissertation.

The collected data were based on the application of Del aleta instrument to generalist nurses.

Partial outcomes applied to a pretest on the knowledge of TIME demonstrated the following: 83% of the nurses acknowledge a nonviable tissue; all of them acknowledge the presence of infection in the wound bed; 50% acknowledge the chronic inflammatory process and prescribe an absorbable dressing to control the wound exudate; and 25% acknowledge the need of debridement in order to advance the edge of wound.

This way, the partial outcomes allow us to conclude that it's necessary to provide a specific qualification by introducing the new concepts of wound bed preparation to the chronic wounds management.