

MULTICENTER CASE STUDY SERIES WITH A MONO-THERAPEUTIC POLYMERIC MEMBRANE DRESSING ON SECONDARY HEALING WOUNDS

Gerhard Kammerlander, Johanna Felber, Michaela Krammel, Esther Locherer, Anja Süss-Burghart, Hermann Pichler, Petra Zweimüller

¹DGKP/ZWM®, Zürich, Switzerland, ²Beau-Site Klinik Bern, Bern, Switzerland, ³DGKS, WDM, KKh., Wien, Austria, ⁴DGKS/ZWM®, Kallern-Hinterbühl, Switzerland, ⁵Städtisches Klinikum GmbH, München, Germany, ⁶BGLD-Krankenanstalten GmbH, Neudörfel, Austria, ⁷Leitung WundKompetenzZentrum, Linz, Austria

Objective: Today a large variety of dressings are chosen in various combinations according to the condition of the wound. We wanted to evaluate the use of a polymeric membrane dressing because of its claimed ability to simultaneously and continuously moisten, absorb, fill and cleanse the wound bed.

Purpose: By incorporating the polymeric membrane dressings in our standardized therapy we wanted answers to the following questions; Will we see a cleansing effect in the wound bed? Will there be a visible decrease in wound size? Can the dressing be used in cavities without additional wound fillers? Does the dressing function well as both a primary and secondary dressing? Ease of handling?

Method: Six wound care centers in Austria, Germany and Switzerland were involved. They all followed the same wound care protocol from a CWM® (Certified Wound Manager). 58 patients were documented using a standardized assessment chart. Both hospitalized and out-patients were included. A large variety of wound types were represented. 83% of the patients had chronic illnesses which severely inhibit wound healing. Dressing change varied from daily to twice a week.

Result: The wound area decreased from an average of 9,75 cm² to an average of 6,22 cm². 22% of the wounds closed, 64% showed significant improvement, 12% became worse and 2% stalled. Concerning ease of handling/application 88% of the clinicians scored "good" and "excellent" and would recommend further usage.

Conclusion: We saw an 88% improvement of wound healing/closure. This confirms that the sole application of the polymeric membrane dressing clearly supports wound cleansing and granulation. We are also convinced that the dressings can be used without additional treatments/therapeutic agents. The cavity filler could be applied in deep wound without the need for additional fillers. Above all, product handling was extremely easy.