

INFECTION CONTROL AND EXUDE IN CHRONIC LEG ULCER: THE ROLE OF AN ANTIMICROBIC SILVER DRESSING ASSOCIATED WITH A HYDROPOLYMER DRESSING IN PREPARING THE WOUND BED

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Aim: Evaluate the dressing efficiency in controlling the infection and exude based on a correct identification of infection signs, through clinical observation.

Methodology: The leg ulcer infection can be localized (superficial) or deep (systematic).

By presenting 3 case studies our intention is to evaluate the dressing material in local infection situations without systematic antibiotic resource.

Case 1: 58 year old female patient, is being followed in pain consultation at Central Hospital, with a leg ulcer, (index of ankle/arm pressure, 1,23) which has been active since 2006, located in the inferior, external face of the left leg, having a dimension of 13,1 x 9,2 cm.

Case 2: 72 year old male patient, presents a leg ulcer of venous origin (index of ankle/arm pressure, 1) with various recurrences, and the last having a 15 year evolution, located in the inferior part of the left leg.

Case 3: 69 year old female patient, with heart pathology, arterial hypertension, rheumatoid arthritis, medicated with antihypertensors and anticoagulants. Reveals a leg ulcer of venous origin with a 30 year evolution, (index of ankle/arm pressure, 1,05) located in the inferior part of the left leg and having a dimension of 12,8 x 9,7 cm.

Conclusion: The use of a dressing containing an antiseptic with a slow and continuous liberation, with a large spectrum, has produced a “sustained” antimicrobial effect, which is effective in the microbial charge.

With this strategy it was not necessary to apply an antibiotic to control the infection, preventing the appearance of resistance, possible allergic reactions and unnecessary costs.