

HANDLING OF ANTIMICROBIAL WATER FILTER AND DISPOSABLE SHOWER ROSE USED FOR WOUND CLEANSING

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In our department we treat patients with all types of chronic wounds, including post operation split-skin transplants. To assure quality of healthcare, healthcare professionals are required to follow clinical guidelines on various procedures. Since 1996 standard procedure when cleansing wounds in the bathroom, has been to change and machine-wash the hose and showerhead externally after use.

Aim: A new procedure using a disposable antimicrobial water filter changed every 14th day and a detachable and disposable shower rose for single use application, was tested and evaluated in terms of handling and compared with standard procedure.

Method: The shower rose system was tested over a period of 2 months from November to December 2008. 15 Questionnaires on the handling of the shower rose system were distributed to our department nurses.

Results: 100% of the nurses answered the questionnaires. All were positive to the handling of the water filter and the shower rose, and in comparison with the standard procedure. Using the disposable shower rose increased focus on hygiene, and the system provided a gentle and effective cleansing of the wounds.

An additional benefit to the usage of the shower rose system was the patients enjoyment and sense of wellbeing due to increased shower frequency.

Conclusion: In our department considerations are made to replace current clinical guideline procedure, using a washable showerhead, with the procedure using the disposable water filter and shower rose system.