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LIMB SALVAGE WITH TOPICAL WOUND OXYGEN* – TWO CASES OF COMPLEX WOUNDS IN MULTIMORBID PATIENTS AND IMMINENT MAJOR AMPUTATION

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Introduction: Patients suffering from chronic ischemic wounds often have multiple chronic conditions that impair wound healing. We present two cases we treated with a new therapy working with oxygen and cyclical pressure.

Methods and Results: topical wound oxygen* works with purified oxygen and pressure cycles between 5 and 50mbar to enhance the partial oxygen pressure in the wound tissue.

Case 1:

A 64 year old male patient had an autologous femoro-popliteal bypass surgery done 4 weeks prior to admission. We saw the patient with a complete necrosis of the skin on dorsal site of the foot. Surgical removal of necrosis and resection of compartment on back of foot as well as amputation of toes were performed. We continued therapy with negative pressure therapy (NPT) and intermittent topical wound oxygen* therapy. After skin grafting NPT and intermittent topical wound oxygen* therapy for 7 days was done. After stopping NPT, topical wound oxygen* treatment alone was for 10 days before dismissal home.

Case 2:

72 year old male diabetic patient with AVK developed a gangrenous forefoot. Prior to admission to surgical ward therapy with prostavasin was done. There were no possibilities to improve arterial vascular status via surgical procedures. A transmeta-tarsale amputation with repeated debridements was performed followed by negative pressure therapy and resection of necrotic tissue. After 6 weeks of no further improvements we started with topical wound oxygen* for 6 days. The wound granulated well and we decided to skin graft followed by negative pressure and topical wound oxygen* therapy on days of dressing changes for 6 days. After 13 days of solely topical wound oxygen* the wound granulated well and the patient was dismissed to rehabilitation.

Conclusion: In these two complicated cases both associated with severe co morbidities topical wound oxygen* proved to be an valuable adjunctive therapy with good results in healing and more important to maintain the functional status by avoiding major amputation.

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