P 79

CLINICAL EVALUATION OF A NEW HYDROGEL IN LOCAL WOUND TREATMENT

Koen Nemegeer[1], Frans Meuleneire[2].

[1]*Home Care (Knesselare, Belgium)*
[2]*AZ St Elisabeth (Zottegem, Belgium)*

Introduction: Hydrogels remain popular products because of their effectiveness and ease of application. However, there is no clinical evidence as to why a certain hydrogel is better or more active than another. Because it is dispensed in a pressurised canister* has a greater convenience of use than other hydrogels. In addition, the product is free of paraben preservatives.

Methods: In a 3 month observational clinical study, 15 patients with different wounds, suitable for treatment with a hydrogel were selected to be treated with the new hydrogel.

The purpose of the treatment was mostly helping the debridement of necrotic tissue and/or fibrinous material. In dry wounds an additional purpose was keeping a moderately moist wound healing environment.

Photographs were made with the patients' consent at the beginning of the treatment and as many as possible during the following visits.

Results: The new hydrogel has a positive effect on the wound cleaning phase. It allows sufficient hydration of a dry necrotic wound, which enhances autolytic debridement and leads to a vital granulating wound bed.

Changing bandages is less painful because the gel does not stick to the wound bed. Ideally the product could have a higher viscosity allowing a longer contact time.

Conclusion: The new hydrogel distinguishes itself from other hydrogels by its convenient application and its lack of parabens. The opaque, white color helps to visually control the application and dosing, e.g. in filling up a cavernous wound exactly to the skin level.

* Flamozil® (Oystershell NV)