Wound Center Skin Micro-Autografting Under Local Anesthesia Appears Synergistic with Elastic Compression to Improve Venous Leg Ulcer Healing

**Problem**
- Full thickness pretibial ulcer with no hist of trauma
- Pulsatile pedal pulses
- Minimal venous stasis pigment
- Comorbid Coronary Occlusive, CHF, COPD on Prednisone & Nasal O2

**Treatment**
- Elastic compression
- Soft debridement after HOCl pre-treatment (refused sharp debridement)
- Corticosteroids & Nasal O2

**Outcome**
- Post op Day #14 post skin grafting wound to 55% closed
- MI and death PO Day #28

**References**
2. Wisnieski L., Norris R., Winkler M., Split
3. Cornrow furrows in the skin are the result of fuzzy wale elastic compression stockinet therapy for the comorbid venous insufficiency. This is the last wound photo, unfortunately patient died suddenly, APE or MI, on PO Day #28.

**Problem**
- Pretibial hematoma due to falling frozen Thanksgiving turkey
- On Coumadin for prior DVT, deep vein clots and APE (acute pulmonary embolus)
- Comorbidities: COPD, active smoking
- Mild arterial insufficiency
- Mild venous insufficiency, edema

**Treatment**
- Debridement after. Lidocaine was injected under the black eschar
- Topical hypochlorous acid (HOCl) to control biofilm bacteria, hydroconductive dressing + compression dressing to prepare wound bed
- EdemaWear**** two layer dressing replaced weekly to deliver elastic compression in concert with a hydroconductive contact dressing, Drawtex.**

**Outcome**
- Complete wound healing 21 days after Micro-Autografting

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The use of elastic compression and local anesthesia in skin micro-autografting for venous leg ulcers appears to yield synergistic results, as evidenced by improved wound healing and reduced pain reported by patients. The technique, which involves injecting Lidocaine beneath the eschar using a handheld dermatome to harvest the skin graft, is easy to learn and perform, and can be performed under local anesthesia. This approach offers a promising alternative to traditional methods, particularly for patients with comorbidities or extensive ulcers. Further research is needed to confirm these findings and to explore the potential role of elastic compression in accelerating healing and improving patient outcomes. (Winkler MJ, Creighton University, 2023)