Hypochlorous Acid Enabled Soft Debridement Speeds Healing of Refractory Venous Leg Ulcers - simplicity, low cost and patient comfort are advantages.

**Problem**
Refactory venous leg ulcers (VLUs) (treatment > 3 weeks) refer to those chronic wounds that fail to heal from either ineffective elastic compression or ineffective mechanical debridement of sinuses. These wounds can be debilitating, life altering, and can lead to serious complications such as cellulitis or osteomyelitis. Soft debridement strategies are essential in the management of VLUs as they can help remove necrotic tissue, biofilm bacteria, and reduce the bacterial load, allowing for proper wound healing.

**Methods**
Hypochlorous acid (HOCl) enabled soft debridement was used in concert with longitudinal yarn elastic compression (**TX**). The treatment protocol included a HOCl saturated wet wash cloth soak followed by a HOCl saturated wet wash cloth soak and then a dry Terry cloth soak. The wash cloth was then applied to the wound and left on the wound for 10 minutes contact time. HOCl was found to be a small moiety, diffusing rapidly into mucopolysaccharide biofilms to kill bacteria. Hypochlorous acid solution (*) enabled soft debridement with clean dry wash cloth. Hypochlorous acid solution (*) enabled soft debridement with clean dry wash cloth. HOCl reacts with Singhlet oxygen, which appears to soften granulation tissue exudate and may decrease pain.

**Results**
Hypochlorous acid enabled soft debridement was associated with healing of chronic leg ulcers. HOCl saturated wet wash cloth soaked with 250 ppm HOCl enabled "soft debridement" with clean dry wash cloth. Note how light refracts off of shiny wound mucus on the wound surface.

**Conclusions**
HOCl enabled "soft debridement" with clean dry wash cloth for VLUs appears to be safe and seems likely to be efficacious and cost-effective for treating VLUs.

**References**