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# Wound Edge Epiboly Responds to Elastic Compression Therapy

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## Problems

Initial appearance of the wound edge betrays the multiple comorbid physiologic problems at work in a chronic wound and, importantly, guides our initial care of the wound. One example, early debridement of hyperkeratotic wound shoulders to create a flat wound contour is widely accepted. The role of edema control to treat epiboly is not widely understood.<sup>1</sup>

Sibbald et al. established the importance of wound edge therapy as an integral part of wound bed preparation in an evidence level 5 review article in 2000.<sup>2</sup> Recently Snyder and Fife include wound edge effects in the DIME paradigm (Devitalized Tissue, Inflammation, Moisture Balance and Edge Preparation), which is a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) measure.<sup>3</sup>

This case series asks, does elastic compression therapy decrease wound epiboly?<sup>3</sup>

## Methods

Photos document presentation, treatment and outcomes of ten lower extremity wounds of mixed etiology that had dramatic wound edge response to elastic textile compression.\*

## Results

This non-controlled case series demonstrates that elastic textile compression therapy controls two **DIME** PQRS measures, wound **Mo**isture control and wound **E**dge preparation.

## Conclusions

Elastic textile compression therapy appears to improve wound **E**dge epiboly and improve wound healing.

## References

1. Winkler, M., Science Poster, Symposium Advanced Wound Care, 2014, Longitudinal Wale Elastic Compression Textile Controls Comorbid Wound Edema to Improve Wound Healing: online at:  
<http://compressiondynamics.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/PosterLongitudinal-Wale-Elastic-Compression-Textile-Controls-Comorbid-Wound-Edema-to-Improve-Wound-Healing.pdf>
  2. RG Sibbald, D Williamson, HL Orsted... - Ostomy/Wound Management ..., 2000. Preparing the wound bed--debridement, bacterial balance, and moisture balance.
  3. RJ Snyder, C Fife, Z Moore, Advances in Skin & Wound Care, 2016 - ncbi.nlm.nih.gov. Components and Quality Measures of DIME (Devitalized Tissue, Infection/Inflammation, Moisture Balance, and Edge Preparation) in Wound Care.
- \* EdemaWear® fuzzy wale elastic compression textile, Compression Dynamics LLC, Omaha, Nebraska 68102
- \*\* Altrazeal, Hydroxy ethyl methyl methacrylate (HEMA nanoparticle power), Uluru Inc., Addison, TX 75001

