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Rise of the Contact Layer Clones: Novel Contact Dressing Appear to Improve Elastic Compression Therapy Results

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Problem

Moffatt at Charing Cross established the considerable effectiveness of layered elastic compression for venous leg ulcers (VLUs).[1] From that time until present, generic nylon or rayon wound contact dressings were included in the dressing kits. Caregivers often substituted more expensive contact layers.[2] Recently, a large corporation included a therapeutic wound contact layer, rayon treated with DACC, a hydrophobic antimicrobial* in their VLU layered dressing kit. This anecdotal study asks, do six commercially available therapeutic contact dressings improve results of elastic compression therapy?

Methods

Six commercially available novel contact layers with unique therapeutic claims covered refractory VLUs treated with elastic compression.** HEMA*** and DACC* polymers inhibit microbial films, activated carbon cloth# absorbs inflammatory mediators,[3] a knitted cloth with hydrophobic and hydrophilic polymer fibers## and a scrim backed viscose rayon felt### both conduct exudate/transudate away from the skin,[4,5] and polyester cloth printed with silver and zinc dots form a simple cell battery producing a current of 1.2 volts across wound surface.#### Clear photos document wound presentation, treatment details and healing.

Results

Photos document wound bed preparation and healing of difficult chronic refractory VLUs using six novel therapeutic contact dressings and elastic compression.

Conclusion

Anecdotal treatment of refractory VLUs with novel wound contact dressings under fuzzy wale elastic compression suggest that each of these new to market therapeutic contact layers appear effective. These observations presage a standard of care change.

References

1. Christine J. Moffatt, Lynn Mccullagh, et al, Randomized trial of four-layer and two-layer bandage systems in the management of chronic venous ulceration. Wound Regeneration and Repair, Volume 11, Issue 3, May 2003 Pages 166–171

2. Alan Neal, formerly Director of New Product Development, Smith Nephew Inc., personal communication.

3. Stadler et al. Survey of 12,444 patients with chronic wounds treated with active carbon cloth. Akt Dennatol 2002; 28: 351-354 3

4. Kimberly S. Brown, Martin C. Robson, The Treatment of Partial-Thickness Burns with a Hydroconductive Wound Dressing: Clinical and Mechanical Effects, Surgical Science, 2013, 4, 268-272

5. Suzie Ehmann, DPT CWS CLT, Bridging the Gap Between Compression and Exudate Management in Lower Extremity Wounds, Science poster, Symposium of Advanced Wound Care October 20, 2017, Las Vegas, NV

* Sorbact® Cutimed® DACC coated rayon dressing, BSN Medical International Guillaume Kroll L-1882 Luxembourg

** EdemaWear® Fuzzy Wale Elastic Compression Stockinet, Compression Dynamics LLC, Omaha NE 68102

*** Altrazeal® Nano Crystalline HEMA Wound Dressing, Uluru Inc, Addison, TX 75001

Zorflex® Activated Long Fiber Carbon Cloth, Calgon Carbon, Chemviron Division, Tyne on Wear, New Castle UK, available in USA from NovaGran Wound Care Products, a division of PBE, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Tritec® Milliken Healthcare Products LLC, Spartanburg, SC 29303

Drawtex® Leva Fiber Hydro Conductive Dressing, SteadMed Medical Inc., Fort Worth, TX 76107

Procellera®, Integra Life Sciences, Drive Plainsboro, NJ 08536