The objective of this study was to illustrate the use of a super-absorbent dressing as alternative to negative-pressure wound therapy. Key motivation was socio-economic concerns such as cost and the general frail condition of the patient. A suggested application of Sorbion® Sachet S is demonstrated in this case study to ensure the maximum benefit of its absorbent properties.

History

- 85-year-old female patient presenting with an unstageable pressure injury on her right buttock using NPUAP Guidelines as a staging tool.¹
- The patient gives a history of nausea and vomiting for the past week.
- Mobilises with help only.
- She is weak and spends most of the day in bed.

Co-morbidities

- Hypercholesterolaemia, on treatment.
- Previous DVT.
- Hypertension, on treatment.
- Incontinence, wearing diapers

Wound description

Dime model Sibbald et al.²

| Type of wound | Chronic healable |
| Position      | Right buttock |
| Appearance    | Black eschar | unstable |
| Edges         | Dry |
| Exudate       | Low levels |
| Odour         | None |

Treatment Plan

- Autolytic debridement with a honey ointment. Although there were no clinical signs of infection, the honey addressed the bacterial burden. Nerds and Stonees as per Sibbald et al.³
- Exudate management with Sorbion® Sachet S.
- Dressing changes alternative days until debridement completed then x 2/week.
- Keep wound area pressure-free.
- Mobilise to prevent further complications.
- Obtain optimal nutritional status: Manage nausea and supplement meals.

Conclusion

Sorbion® Sachet S as a super-absorbent dressing was a good cost-effective and appropriate alternative to negative-pressure wound therapy when socio-economic concerns did not permit the level of care required.

References

1. NPUAP-EPUAP. Staging/Classifications Definitions.