

POSITIVE INFLUENCE OF AN ENZYME ALGINOGEL® ON PREPARING A WOUND FOR A SURGICAL FLAP PROCEDURE

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INTRODUCTION

The four elements of WBP need to be addressed: exudate management, preparation for surgical debridement, fight infection and protection of the surrounding skin. Case description: After changing her knee prosthesis, a healthy, 77-year old woman developed a compartment syndrome in her calf. After cleaving laterally, she developed a Pseudomonas infection. Then cyanosis developed on the Tibia, which slowly transitioned into necrosis of the epidermis.

TREATMENT

In order to fight the infection in the wound, it was decided to keep the wound dry for 24 hours, together with a broad spectrum antibiotic treatment related to the prosthesis. The wound was then treated with an enzyme alginogel® and silicone bandage. This allowed restoration of normal hydration and autolytic debridement of the wound in the calf. Thanks to this treatment, the VAS score during dressing changes was reduced to an acceptable level.

RESULTS

Within one week, the cyanosis developed into a surgically removable necrosis. No infectious parameters were visible anymore, also due to the anti-microbial enzyme system present in the enzyme alginogel®. The first signs of granulation tissue developed in the woundbed and wound borders. After 2 weeks, a simple surgical debridement and surgical flap procedure were performed together during one procedure.



CONCLUSION

Combining an enzyme alginogel® with a silicone bandage allows for less painful dressing changes and creates a good WBP prior to a surgical flap procedure.