Utilizing the Self-Regulating Moisture Control of a Humifiber Dressing to Manage a Single Complex Wound

Vicki Fischnenich, GNP-BC; Randall Wolcott, MD • Southwest Regional Wound Care Center, Lubbock, TX

ABSTRACT:
Chronic wounds are often complex and have clearly been shown not to be homogeneous. The wound bed in these cases is not flat, and the moisture balance among different locations within the wound is heterogeneous. The dressing behavior of wound dressings is critical to the healing process. The objective of this study was to determine the effectiveness of Humifiber dressings on a complex wound in a 62-year-old man with severe dryness of the exposed cranial bone and pain from tendon exposure. The Dressing descriptor index was used to determine the effect of the dressing on the wound, with high scores indicating the dressing was effective on the wound.

BACKGROUND:
Chronic wounds are heterogeneous and present a unique challenge for self-regulating dressings. The dressings were non-adhering, dressing removal was quick, and the dressing was not changed frequently. The Dressing descriptor index was used to determine the effect of the dressing on the wound, with high scores indicating the dressing was effective on the wound.

OBJECTIVE:
To evaluate the ability of a new self-adaptive dressings to facilitate optimal moisture balance in the wound bed and peri-wound area of complex chronic wounds.

METHODS:
• We prospectively evaluated effectiveness of a novel humifiber advanced wound dressing in facilitating moisture balance in chronic and subacute wounds.
• With patient consent, consecutive wounds, regardless of etiology or amount of exudate, were included in the evaluation.
• Wounds were divided into 5 classes, nectritic, necrotic, and ulcerative topical-specific infection was observed.

RESULTS:
17 patients with 23 chronic wounds were evaluated.
12 wounds were evaluated in an inpatient setting, and 11 wounds were evaluated in an outpatient setting.

CONCLUSIONS:
Dressing self-adapted to multiple wound conditions, from areas prone to desiccation of bone to areas with copious drainage, at the same time within the same wound. All wounds appeared optimally moist throughout each healing phase with no need for dressing customization.

REFERENCES: