CLINICAL EVALUATION OF A NEW HIGH ABSORBENCY DRESSING

The process of healing together with patient quality of life is influenced by the quality and quantity of wound exudate (Cutting 2004). Exudate production is a major motivator to devise dressings that benefit the wound by providing an optimal environment and to help mask the more unpleasant visual and malodorous features. Efficient exudate management is therefore a primary requirement of wound dressing performance particularly in moderately to heavily exudating wounds.

sorbion sachet S is a sterile hydroactive wound dressing with high quantities of superabsorbent polymers used for the treatment of exuding wounds. It functions by absorbing and retaining chronic wound exudate, including the high levels of protease enzymes (Matrix Metalloproteases or MMPs) known to be present.

sorbion sachet S is a hypoallergenic fleece envelope, containing super-absorbent (water-binding polymers included in a cellulose matrix) with highly efficient liquid-uptake and retention properties, even under compression. No adhesives are used at any stage in the manufacturing process and it is sealed ultrasonically.

sorbion sachet S is intended for use in exuding wounds healing by secondary intent, for example chronic wounds such as leg ulcers, pressure ulcers and diabetic foot ulcers in which excess protease activity is postulated to impair wound healing. By virtue of its large fluid uptake and retention capacity, sorbion sachet S will be cost-effective insofar as it permits an extended wear time, even when used under compression bandaging.

The ability to bind large quantities of fluid is mirrored by the dressing’s ability to manage wound malodour. Malodorous bacterial products are ‘locked’ with the dressing matrix and provide an additional quality of life benefit.

The interim results of a multi-centre 30 patient clinical evaluation* demonstrate the positive benefits of this dressing, in particular, the ability to absorb (when required) copious volumes of exudate, the reduction in frequency of dressing change, patient acceptance of the dressing, improved quality of life together with an associated cost benefit.

An illustrative case study taken from the 30 patient evaluation demonstrates the benefits of sorbion sachet S to patient, staff and healthcare provider.

Week 0
- Wound dimensions: 18x10cm
- High exudate, maceration, Aquacel (2 pcs. 10x10cm), compression, pads,
- 5 dressing changes/wk

Week 2
- Wound dimensions: 10x8cm
- reduced exudate, no maceration, 10x8cm sachet S (20x10cm),
- 2 dressing changes/wk

sorbion sachet S is available on prescription (FP10) in UK from December 1st 2007 and is distributed by HR Healthcare.

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KEY WORDS
Chronic wound
Exudate management
MMP modulation
Patients quality of life

*sorbion WOUND CARE
www.sorbion.com

*CLINICAL EVALUATION OF A NEW HIGH ABSORBENCY DRESSING
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