

TREATMENT OF VENOUS ULCERS (ULCUS CRURIS VENOSUM) WITH AN ENZYME ALGINOGEL

Patricia Wijnands

Ziekenhuis Netwerk Antwerpen - site Stuivenberg/St.-Erasmus
Belgium

Introduction

Purpose of the study : Ulcus cruris occurs frequently.
It is a defect on the lower legs due to chronicle venous insufficiency.

Wound healing is a difficult and slow process, so an adequate treatment and optimized follow up are of the highest importance.

The purpose of this study is to learn to understand the use of an Enzyme Alginogel* in the treatment of venous ulcers.

Diagnosis: A 63 years old female patient was hospitalized due to acute dyspnoea. She was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, cord compensation, extensive phlebitis on the lower limbs, arterial hypotension and ulcus bulbi.

Method: We observed the ulcers on both lower limbs according to T.I.M.E. Tissue, bacterial load, exudation, edges and VAS score were observed.

Treatment

The superficial red open wounds were extensively showered. We used betaine to macerate the wounds for 15 minutes. The edges were protected with a sting-free barrier film spray. On the wound bed we applied an moderately exudating Enzyme Alginogel with a non adherent absorbent dressing which was fixed with a cotton bandage. Once the patient gained mobility we started treatment with short stretch compression bandages.

Results

We saw a significant improvement in a relatively short time. In 4 weeks' time the wound bed is reduced to small,superficial,minor exudating ulcers. To achieve full epithelialization we switched treatment to foam dressings.

Conclusion

This case shows us that an enzyme alginogel* is effective for the treatment of venous ulcers.

*Enzyme Alginogel = Flaminal® Hydro - Flaminal® Forte

Left leg



31/09/2010
T: fibrin

I: heavily colonized

M: heavily exuding

E: crusts,scaly skin

VAS: score 8



19/10/2010
T: granulation

I: reduction of amount of bacteria

M: moderate exudate

E: epithelialization

VAS: score 6



17/11/2010
T: granulation

I: bacterial balance

M: moderate exudate

E: epithelialization

VAS: score 4



31/11/2010
T: granulation, epithelialization

I: bacterial balance

M: moderate exudate

E: epithelialization
VAS: score 2, enkel bij manipulatie

Right leg



19/10/2010
T: Fibrin, granulation tissue

I: colonization

M: strongly exudative

E: crusts
VAS: score 8



17/11/2010
T: granulation, epithelialization

I: bacterial balance

M: moderate exudate

E: epithelialization
VAS: score 4



31/11/2010
T: granulation, epithelialization

I: bacterial balance

M: moderate exudate

E: epithelialization
VAS: score 0