



INTRODUCTION

Effective exudate management is essential for wound healing. Lower extremity wounds are often highly exudative resulting in a variety of challenges. These types of wounds often require multiple dressing changes daily which can be exhausting to both the patient and the caregiver. In an ideal setting, the dressing should be able to sustain at least one full 24-hour period before needing the next dressing change especially if these wounds are painful.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to determine patient outcomes after switching dressing protocols to a superabsorbent such as Zetuvit® Plus in a local wound care practice.

METHODS

This is a series of challenging cases involving highly exudative atypical wounds of the lower extremity, including cases of venous stasis, Graft vs Host, and scleroderma.

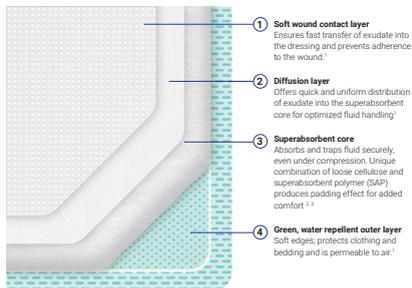


Figure 1: Superabsorbent illustration

CASE STUDIES

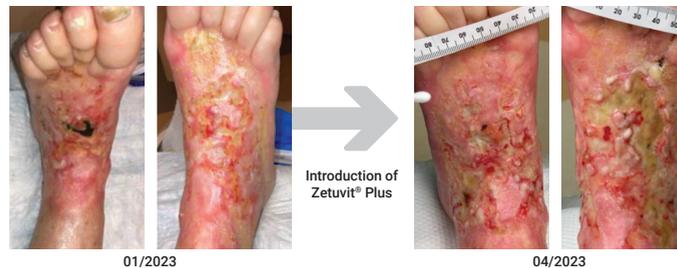
Case #1: Venous Stasis Ulceration



Case #2: Complication from Graft Versus Host Disease



Case #3: Scleroderma (Exudate Management)



Patient was getting once daily dressing changes after incorporating Zetuvit® Plus. Previously was getting 2-4 times dressing change daily.

RESULTS

After implementing the new protocol, there was a noticeable change in odor control and wound base appearance along with a decreased frequency in need for multiple daily dressing changes.

DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

These results demonstrate that superabsorbent dressings should be the standard of care in all wound types of the lower extremity with exudate that is from moderate to heavy to aid with wound healing, infection control, odor control, and pain management.

References

1. Barrett, S. et al. (2018). An observational study of a superabsorbent polymer dressing evaluated by clinicians and patients. *Journal of Wound Care* vol 27, no. 2, February 2018
2. Davies, L.O, Rippon MG and Westgate SJ. (2017) Odour Sequestration Properties of Superabsorbent Dressings *Perfectus Paper 2017*: Poster presented at Wounds UK, Harrogate, UK

Acknowledgments

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Trademark Item

*Zetuvit® Plus, Paul Hartmann AG, Heidenheim Germany

