



Dressing Formulary

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DRESSING FORMULARY

A large number of wound dressings are available with a wide range of physical performance characteristics (such as size, adhesion, conformability and fluid-handling properties) and costs, presenting a challenge for healthcare professionals who are managing wounds. The prescription costs of advanced wound dressings and antimicrobial dressings in primary care in England were almost £106 million in the year to August 2017 (based on British National Formulary [BNF] volume 69 sections at presentation level; personal communication: NHS Business Services Authority 2017). There is considerable variation in the cost of dressings both between categories of dressings and within each category. For example, silver dressings accounted for almost 9% of items supplied on prescription, but in view of their relatively high cost were associated with over 18% (£19 million) of the total cost of advanced wound dressings. NICE 2018

A prescribers' ability to choose wound dressings on the basis of clinical evidence is hindered by the relative lack of robust clinical- or cost-effectiveness evidence. The guidance suggests that:-

- hydrogel dressings were more effective than basic wound contact dressings for complete healing of diabetic foot ulcers (low-quality evidence), as were foam dressings (very low-quality evidence)
- hydrocolloid and polyurethane film dressings were more effective than gauze dressings in terms of the proportion of pressure ulcers completely healed (low-quality evidence).

Safety, efficacy and cost effectiveness are important factors to consider when choosing dressings. A decision on which dressing is most appropriate for a specific chronic wound also requires careful clinical assessment of the person's wound, their clinical condition, any comorbidity and their personal circumstances and preferences.

In view of the plethora of dressings available, the absence of good-quality evidence for national guidelines to base specific recommendations on, and recognising financial constraints, local formularies provide a means of rationalising the choice of dressings.

The local community dressing formulary has been in place for a number of years. In line with the new centralised dressing initiative a complete review of dressings has been undertaken in conjunction with all district nurse teams.

In July 2018 a full review of all products on current dressing formulary took place, with a round table exercise to review alternative products to those identified as not being wholly suitable.

The outcomes and recommendation for products are:-

Foam Dressings

The current foam dressing of choice was identified as not being suitable for clinical application in the majority of cases, issues of disintegration and foam 'sticking' to wound beds was found to be common practice. These issues have been discussed with the company and identified as areas of concern. It

was decided to combine the low adherent foam and standard foam sections into one area within which 2 foams would be available on first line which would facilitate optimum choice for the variety of skin conditions associated with wound care. Various foam dressings were reviewed by the group and the dressings of choice opted for after considering fluid handling properties, absorption properties, skin adherence, and ease of removal.

Current Product – Activheal Foam – Drug tariff cost currently 10 X 10 = £ 1.63 each

Products of choice - Covalon Foam & Biatain Foam silicone, & non adhesive ranges

Drug tariff cost Covalon Foam 10 X 10 = £ 1.79 each

Drug tariff cost Biatain Foam 10 X 10 = £ 1.80 each

Hydrogel

It was felt that these products were no longer required for wound care within community areas and the group decided to remove all hydrogel products from the formulary.

Current Product – Intrasite gel TO BE REMOVED

Hydrocolloid

The group reviewed current practice was not suitable and there was a substantial amount of alternatives being used. Problems with adhesion and wear time were identified and felt that this needed a suitable choice alternative. It was discussed regarding more alternatives and the group were happy to adopt the most cost effective option for hydrocolloids.

Current product – Activheal hydrocolloid, Drug Tarrif cost 10 X 10 = £ 1.58

Product of Choice – Covawound Hydrocolliod, Drug Tarrif cost 10 X 10 = £1.03

Skin care

Products currently used are a variety of products and high use of Proshield products. The group reviewed the alternatives and identified that there was no difference in product performance, or expected outcome of use with Medi Derma Products. The decision was to change from Proshield products for cost effective rationale. To remove all other skin protectant products such as Cavilon, Sorbaderm etc

Current Product –

Cutimed, drug tariff cost Cream £3.29 each

Proshield , drug tariff cost £9.94

Products of Choice – Medi Derma-Pro skin protectant ointment, drug Tariff cost £8.50

Medi Derma-Pro foam & spray cleanser, drug tariff cost £ 5.95

Medi Derma-S Barrier Cream, drug tariff cost £ 0.30p each

Medi Derma-S Barrier film, drug tariff 30ml £5.35

Alginate

The range was discussed and there was found to be no substantive difference with the ranges, the current activheal range had reports of fibre shed which could in some instances lead to fissure formation within the wound. This product also gets used for haemostatic properties and it was felt to lack the more substantive requirements to meet this action. Alternatives were reviewed and it discussed.

Current Product – Activheal alginate drug tariff 10 X 10 = £1.15

Products of choice – Covawound alginate 10 X 10 drug tariff = £1.05 & Sorbasan alginate 10 X 10 drug tariff= £1.75

Charcoal Dressings

These dressings are used to absorb odour, usually in patients with malignant wounds. This product range is not currently addressed within the dressing formulary. The group felt it was an important range to have available particularly around quality of life for this patients. Various dressings were discussed and the product of choice for ease of application and cost effectiveness was Carboflex for odour control and comfort.

Product of choice - Carboflex 10 X 10 drug tariff = £3.27

Hydro fibre

The group identified that this product was working well and no issues were identified. Although this category group was not identified within the current dressing formulary it is a useful product for exudate absorbency and wound management. The majority of DN teams identified that they were using Aquacel regularly.

Current Product – Aquacel ribbon drug tariff cost £2.50

Product of choice – Aquacel ribbon same cost as above

Antimicrobial Dressings

The first line antimicrobial dressing choice is to remain the same with restrictions on silver & iodine products being of limited access and requiring further authorisation under the new centralised dressing's format.

Current Products –

Iodosorb, drug tariff cost = £ 4.62

Iodoflex, drug tariff cost = £4.19

Silvercel, 11X11= drug tariff cost £4.17

Flaminal Forte & Flaminal hydro, drug tariff cost £7.79 5 tubes

Prontosan drug tariff cost = £6.50

Prontosan X drug tariff cost = £11.90

Povitulle drug tariff cost 9.5 X 9.5 cost = £0.42

Product of choice – No change from above

Honey products

The group identified that honey products were used infrequently but felt standardisation for education purposes would be useful. Honey is a soft and alternative wound debriding agent and has a plethora of evidence within wound care. This product range is often utilised within plastics specialists across the region and very often are discharged from regional hospitals with a care plan for honey products.

Product of choice –

Activon drug tariff cost =£2.77

Medi honey (to be a TV only product) drug tariff cost = barrier cream = £4.84

Silver

The group identified there was no current issues and the recommended action would be to remain the same.

Product of choice - Silvercel drug tariff cost £4.17

Iodine Products

The group identified there had been a recent change in products from Inadine to Povitulle. The recommendation was to remain with Povitulle and not issues had been identified.

Currently on formulary there is Iodoflex & Iodosorb which are used with current restrictions and the recommendation was to remain with restrictions in place.

Products of choice – Povitulle, Iodoflex & Iodosorb (with restrictions identified)as above

Non – adherent layer

Currently the product is Atrauman contact layer, the group were happy with the product performance and there was no issues identified.

Product of choice – Atrauman drug tariff cost 7.5 X 10 £2.27

Super Absorber

Current product Zetuvit E, the group discussed the requirements of a super absorber and identified that the Zetuvit E product was too stiff and difficult to manipulate particularly around lower legs and the difficult anatomical shapes of legs. Alternatives were discussed and DN teams & TV teams identified that various options have previously been reviewed. Building on the expert knowledge in the group and the challenges these wounds have, it was decided to opt for the alternatives of Zetuvit plus & Kerramax.

Current product Zetuvit E drug tariff cost = £0.22

Cliniderm super absorber drug tariff cost = £0.49

Products of choice –

Zetuvit Plus drug tariff cost = 0.83

Kerramax drug tariff cost = 1.71

Going forward with the centralised dressing initiative the dressing formulary will be designated into various levels of formulary for district nurse immediate access, i.e. top up stock, products requiring additional authorisation, products requiring tissue viability authorisation, i.e. those deemed to need restricted use and not suitable for repeat prescriptions. This work will be undertaken within the project progression timeline.

Secondary products, such as dressing packs, tapes, bandages, pads, film with pad, compression therapy etc will be reviewed early in 2019 in conjunction with a similar review within acute hospitals and this will then standardise these products across all aspects of healthcare in primary & secondary care.

Audit and compliance with dressing formulary will be undertaken monthly following the implementation of the centralised dressing initiative which is scheduled to commence on 5th November 2018. The first report will be reviewed in December 2018 with quarterly reports on activity & compliance back to the care group & CCG groups from January 2019.

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Tissue Viability Matron
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Generic product	Community Services Formulary choice
Hydrocolloid	Covawound Hydrocolloid
Alginate	Covawound alginate and Sorbsan
Honey	Activon for debridement Medi- honey TV Only product
Foam-non adherent	Covawound and Biatain
Foam – Adherent	Covawound and Biatain
Dressing pad	Zetuvit Plus and Kerramax care
Antimicrobial class 1 (up to 14 days use)	Iodoflex / Iodosorb, Silvercel Non-adherent
Antimicrobial class 2 (up to 4 weeks use)	Flaminal Forte & Flaminal Hydro (Ark) Prontosan Soaks & Wound Gel Including Prontosan X (Braun, irrigation fluid)
Non-adherent wound contact layer	Atruamann
Skin protectant	Medi Derma-S barrier film, Med Derma-S barrier cream, Medi Derma-Pro skin protectant ointment and Medi Derma-Pro foam and spray cleanser
Paste bandage	Icthopaste (Smith and Nephew)

Reduce wound overgranulation	1st line foam 2nd line antimicrobial (14 days only to notice results) 3rd line topical steroid (1% Hydrocortisone daily for 7 days, no improvement seek advice) With advice silver nitrate can be used
Superficial skin tear	Non-adherent (Atruamann or Povitulle)
Venous Leg Ulcer	K2 or K2 reduced, Activa if able to weight bear with full ankle movement Maintenance - Activa British Standard compression hosiery
Arterial Mixed Leg Ulcer	No compression. Need an accurate diagnosis. No compression if pain at night or when at rest. Only use compression with caution and close observation

Retention bandages	K Band -10cm size only
Tubular bandages	Comfifast
Bandages With a Therapeutic Action	K-Lite & K-Lite Long 10cm only – light support bandage
Bandages to hold dressing in place	K-Band Retention Bandage 10cm only K Soft
Tape	Clinipore , Hypafix
Film dressing	Hydrofilm
Emollients for leg ulcer patients as per Dermatology formulary	Ointment - Hydromol, Cream - Zerobase Gel – Doublebase gel
Soap substitute as per Dermatology formulary	Doublebase Gel
Irrigants	Prontosan wound irrigation fluid
Adhesive Remover	Apeel Sterile Medical Adhesive Remover. Includes sachet, wipes, spray and foam
Simple Dressing	Mepore Self Adhesive Mepore Ultra – showerproof
Waterproof dressing protection	LimbO
Footwear	KerraPed
Dressing Packs	Manufacturer not specified. Must contain as minimum: Sterile field, apron, gloves, soft swabs, disposable bag
Wound Drainage Bags	Salts wound drainage bags