

CASE STUDY: 18 MONTHS OLD LEG ULCER HEALED AFTER 7 WEEKS



BACKGROUND

79 year old patient with leg ulcer on the right upper ankle, which had been existent since 17th May 2015. Patient in good dietary condition, can walk independently, has no allergies but is mentally unstable. Diagnosed with chronic venous insufficiency and peripheral arterial disease stage IV (endovascular therapy was refused by patient). Prior treatment with hydrogels, collagen, hyaluronan, alginate, and bacteria-binding layers.

CLINICAL ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT

24th November 2016

- Treatment with a gel with Beta-glucan was initiated after several failed attempts with standard of care
- Standard of care wound cleansing agents have been used to clean the wound
- Silicon foam used as secondary dressing - additionally the wound edges were protected with zinc
- Dressing was changed every other day
- Wound assessment and documentation conducted once a month
- Legs were elevated to offload - compression therapy not possible



Figure 1: Wound at presentation



Figure 2: Wound healed after 7 weeks

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- Reduction of wound surface area of 15,2 cm² within 7 weeks
- Distinct progression in pain reduction according to ECPA-pain scale
- At the point of terminating the evaluation, the wound was almost closed, complete healing is anticipated
- The gel with Beta-glucan was found to be an appropriate dressing in the management of this stalled wound. It appeared to promote healing in wounds that were relatively static. The dressing produced very positive patient outcomes and feedback, and was very easy to apply.