

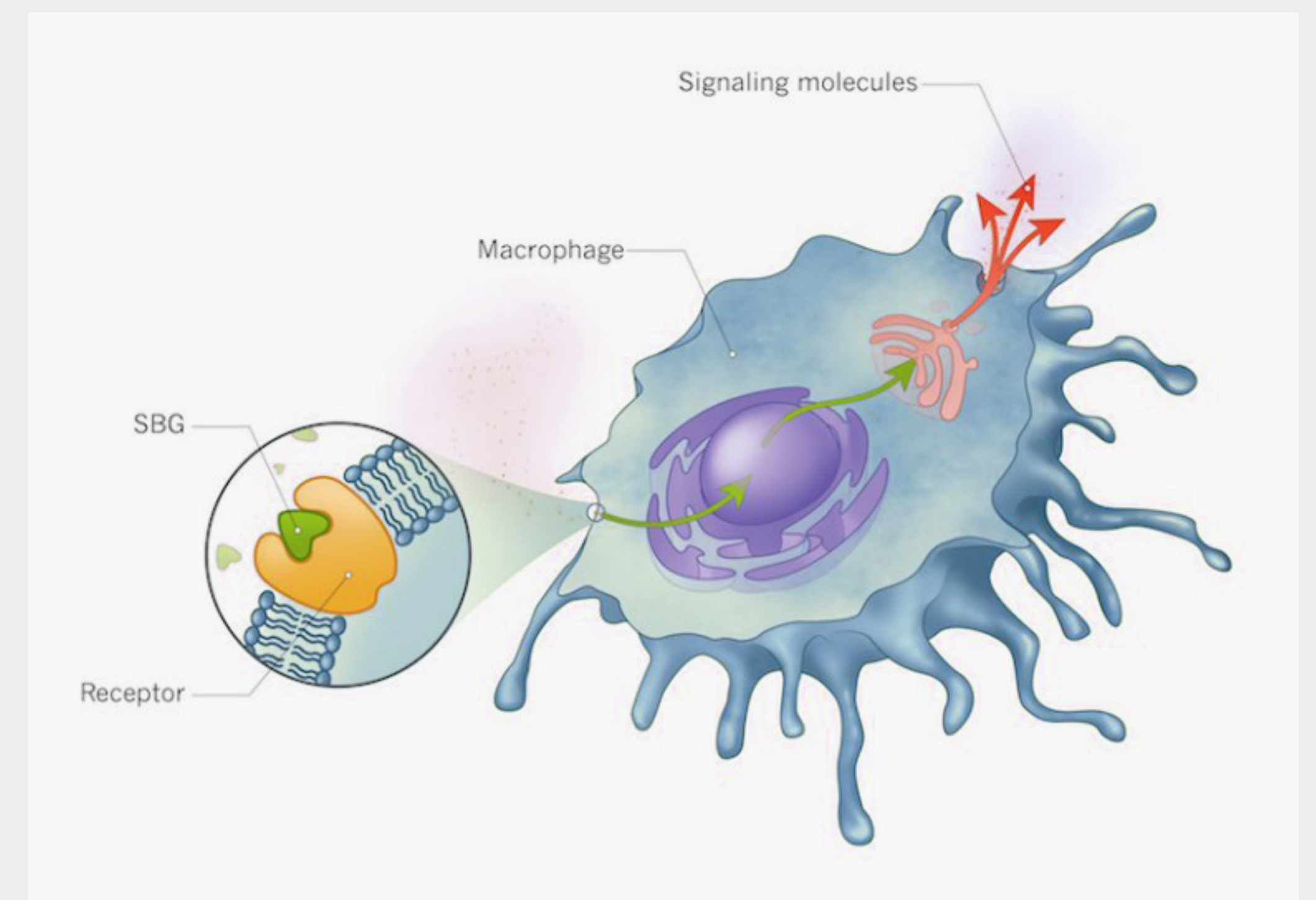
A REPORT ON SEVEN PATIENTS WHOSE WOUNDS HEALED WITHIN A TWELVE WEEK PERIOD FOLLOWING USE OF A TOPICAL BIOACTIVE BETA-GLUCAN GEL

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INTRODUCTION:

Beta-glucans are natural polymers found in the cell walls of bacteria, yeast, fungi, algae, grain and seaweed. They have extensive immune modulatory capability. Beta-glucans have been incorporated into a bioactive gel that activates and attracts macrophages into the wound bed. Macrophages have a pivotal role to play in wound healing, being phagocytic, pro-inflammatory, coordinators of the healing process, indirectly stimulating production of collagen and promoting wound contraction. The bioactive beta-glucan gel* should be applied in a thin layer and changed as clinically indicated – on average twice weekly. A suitable secondary dressing should be applied that will be appropriated for the level of exudate produced.



CLINICAL EVALUATION OF BIOACTIVE BETA-GLUCAN GEL

The novel beta-glucan gel was evaluated over a 12-week period. Seven patients' wounds healed in a cohort of 26 patients with 26 stalled wounds. Prior to intervention with the bioactive beta-glucan gel the wounds had been managed with a variety of dressings.

These stalled wounds had failed to progress under standard care. The duration of the seven wounds ranged from 5 – 312 weeks before Woulgan treatment was initiated. The following table summarises progression of 7 patients whose wounds healed, and includes subjective clinician comments of anticipated outcomes for 6 of these patients.

Case	Wound duration (weeks)	Wound type	Medical history	Existing dressing	Surface area at week 0 (cm ²)	Week healed after Woulgan treatment	Clinician comments
1	312	DFU forefoot amputation	Diabetes	Atrauman, Allevyn Heel Foam	0,5	9	Never healed in 6 years post amputation. Now healed post Woulgan, remains healed for 2 weeks +. Is this a minor miracle?
2	5	DFU	Diabetes	Atrauman, Acticheal Foam Contact	2,42	2	Thought this would heal slowly as non-weight bearing area. Healing process much quicker with Woulgan.
3	22	Leg ulcer	Diabetes	NA Ultra, Mesorb	2,4	8	Vascular intervention, arterial disease. Never healed over several years. Expectation was not to heal.
4	4	Ischaemic ulcer	Diabetes, Smoking	Atrauman, Activeheal Foam Contact	5	12	Revascularisation, thought would heal slowly, as non-weight bearing area affected. Woulgan increased the anticipated healing rate, reduced pain.
5	14	Leg ulcer	Diabetes	Mepore, Aquacel	0,45	7	Not available
6	16	Surgical ulcer	N/A	Aquacel, Kerramax Care, 3 layer compression	3,9	6	I just knew that the wound would go on to heal
7	12	Trauma ulcer	N/A	Kerralight Cool, 3 layer compression	12	7	My first patient. I was unsure whether Woulgan would make a difference. However with future patients, I felt confident in its mode of action and was quite confident that it would help.

Case 1 at beginning of Woulgan treatment



Case 1 after nearly 4 weeks of Woulgan treatment



Case 1 fully healed after 9 weeks treatment



CONCLUSION:

Considering the lack of progression towards healing in the cohort of 26 patients it was a remarkable achievement for 7 of these patients' wounds to heal. In the remaining 19 patients there was an overall reduction in wound surface area.

*The bioactive beta-glucan gel is marketed as Woulgan®

This presentation was supported by an educational grant from Biotec Beta-Glucans, Tromsø, Norway

