

An acute audit of the benefits of a monofilament debridement pad*

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Aim

Clinical audit is a quality improvement process that seeks to improve the patient journey and outcomes.

This audit reviewed a monofilament debridement pad* and its impact across an Acute Trust concentrating on pressure ulcers and traumatic wounds, including haematomas.

Method

A structured audit form, designed to:

- review standard care delivery
- encourage improved clinical practice

was circulated across nominated wards and departments over a five month period in 2014.



A sloughy elbow pressure ulcer (PU)

Case study



The PU following one episode of treatment with a monofilament debridement pad

Results

A total of 15 evaluation forms were collected. Feedback about the monofilament debridement pad* concluded that it...

“performed extremely well in the management of hyperkeratosis”

“assisted in removing wound debris quickly”

“assisted with the categorisation of pressure ulcers at the patient’s bedside.” & “Opened up the wider debate of the categorisation of pressure ulcers across the Tissue Viability community”

“reduced inappropriate referrals”

“reduced referrals of haematomas to the Plastics team in another Trust”

“enabled clinicians to identify wound outcomes, leading to improved wound management decisions”

Conclusion

This audit has demonstrated that the implementation of the monofilament fibre pad* to assist in the process of pressure ulcer categorisation, wound debridement and management of haematomas has had many positive benefits to the organisation, including cost reduction and improved patient outcomes.