

How a monofilament debridement pad* helped to bridge the gap in the debridement of orthopaedic wounds

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Aim

Wound debridement is a technique for removing non-viable tissue detrimental to healing.

Formal surgical debridement techniques and multiple dressings are well established as the standard of care, but there is now evidence for a monofilament debridement pad* that may help to bridge the gap.

An evaluation of a monofilament debridement pad was undertaken within an Acute Trust's busy orthopaedic outpatient clinic.

The objective was to ascertain if staff were able to debride wounds quickly, safely and minimise bacterial load, thus improving patient outcomes.

Results

- The monofilament debridement pad* promoted quick and visible clearance of slough and debris, whilst at the same time ensuring that healing tissue remained undamaged
- Patients have found it comfortable
- It can be used at the bedside without the need for anaesthetic
- It was less aggressive than the scalpel or curette, allowing protection of newly forming tissue
- There was no evidence of dispersal of bacterial contamination deeper into the wound
- It has gained preference for the debridement of wounds within the clinic compared with previous methods

The case studies opposite show one debridement treatment lasting between 2 and 4 minutes. Both would require a second treatment as the slough is more tenacious.



Case study 1

Method

This project was undertaken over a 4 week period.

All clinic staff had attended educational seminars on the monofilament debridement pad*.

Patient consent and evaluation forms were distributed and the results of 10 patient forms have been collated.

Conclusion

Treatment options continue to evolve and recently this monofilament debridement pad revealed results that positively impacted on both the treatment time, and patient and staff experience in wound debridement.*



Case study 2