First experiences with a new HydroBalanced wound matrix with* and without** PHMB in the treatment of minor burns

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Aims:

Wound dressing changes after second degree burns are often painful and lead especially in children to a fear of the wound dressing change. Many different new wound dressings have been introduced over the last decade for the superficial burn. The range of wound dressings that have been advised for the superficial burn extends from the well-known gauze to hydropolymer wound dressings and collagen based temporary wound covers - each one of them with its own advantages and disadvantages.

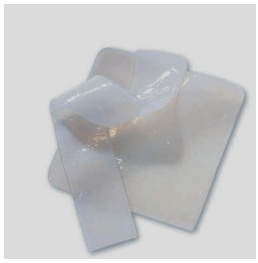
We present for the first time our experiences with a new HydroBalanced wound dressing with* or without polihexanide (PHMB) in the treatment of minor burns.**

Patients:

Patients with minor burns of the extremities were included in this study. All patients were informed about the study protocol and consent was obtained. Immediately after first presentation of the patient the burned area was photographically documented. Superficial eschar was debrided and the wound disinfected by the use of octenidine.

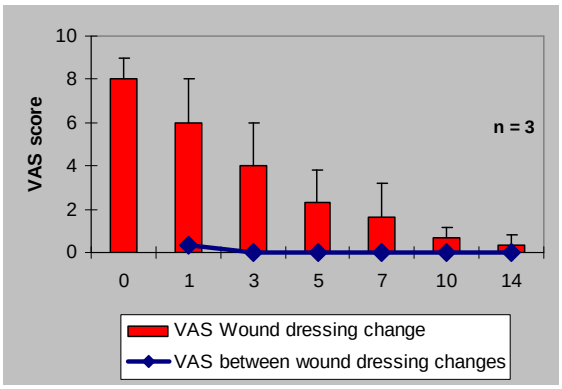
The wounds were covered with a new polihexanide-containing HydroBalanced biocellulose based wound dressing (PHWD)*, a wound matrix with antimicrobial potential through the addition of polyhexanide.

Pain during and between wound dressing changes was estimated by the visual analog scale (VAS), an ungraded pain scale.



Results :

The highest pain scores were achieved directly after burn trauma. With a sufficient wound therapy the painfulness fell strongly during the first three days. All patients reported of no pain between the wound dressing changes. Only a slight itching at the end of the reepithelization phase could be noted. The wound edges did not show any kind of maceration. None of the wounds showed signs of infection. The healing process was adequate compared to an ointment dressing.



* PHWD = Suprasorb® X+PHMB
** HWD = Suprasorb® X
Lohmann & Rauscher products

Case report

46 year old patient

Second degree superficial contact burn due to hot plastic on the right forearm

Appr. 0,5% TBSA

Directly after dressing application

PHWD* covered by sterile gauze and a self-adhesive foil dressing

1st day after burn

Good assessment of the wound is possible. Maximum pain of VAS 6 during the dressing change. Dressing change was performed every third day from that time-point on.

7th day after burn injury

Good assessment of the wound is possible. Maximum pain of VAS 2 during the dressing change. Dressing change was performed every third day from that time-point on.

14th day after burn injury

Nearly complete epithelization has been achieved. The patient points at a VAS of 0

Conclusion:

Minor burns can be treated with this HydroBalanced wound matrix. We recommend the use of PHWD* for the first five days to prevent infection, followed by the application of HWD without polihexanide which is changed every third day.**

PHWD* and HWD are a new wound dressings that are easy and safe to handle.**

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