DRESSILK®: A SERIES OF CASE REPORTS ON PARTIAL THICKNESS BURNS AND DONOR SITES

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OBJECTIVE

The management of both split thickness donor sites and partial thickness burns with healing potential within 21 days is often considered to be similar.
Dressilk®, a dressing consisting of 100% silk, is a promising treatment option.

METHODS

In a preliminary test, split thickness donor sites and partial thickness burns with a healing potential within 21 days were treated with Dressilk®.
Dressilk® was applied directly on the donor site or burn and covered with a secondary gauze dressing. Dressilk® was left in situ until it separated spontaneously from the healed wound.
Parameters taken into account for dressing evaluation were patient comfort and pain (assessed by the patient), bacterial load, time to wound healing, ease of use and general satisfaction (assessed by nurses).

RESULTS

In total 4 patients with partial thickness burns and 4 patients with donor sites had their wounds treated with Dressilk®. On average patients found Dressilk® to be comfortable and only reported no or mild pain with the dressing. Maximum pain observed was assessed as moderate pain. Bacterial problems were mainly caused by Staphylococcus Aureus, but easy to deal with by applying an antiseptic solution on the primary dressing. Dressilk® doesn't cause infection. Average time to wound healing was 18 days in case of the donor sites and 11 days for the burn wounds treated in this test. Nurses were satisfied about the dressing and assessed Dressilk® as easy to use.

TREATMENT OF A FACIAL BURN WITH DRESSILK®

TREATMENT OF A DONOR SITE WITH DRESSILK®

DISCUSSION / CONCLUSION

Advantages:

- Dressilk® doesn't shrink or tear on the wound bed
- As long as the dressing is moist it allows (limited) wound inspection
- Combination with antiseptics is possible
- Dressilk® separates spontaneously after wound healing (easy removal)
- Pain is little to moderate
- The dressing is comfortable
- Dressilk® is easy to use
- Nurses are generally satisfied about using Dressilk®

In this preliminary test Dressilk® was assessed as a suitable dressing for both split thickness donor sites and partial thickness burns with a healing potential within 21 days. A more elaborate study, also investigating cost effectivity, will be performed in the near future.

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