National Clinical Guidelines Centre

Draft

Appendix P

Pressure ulcer prevention and management

Dressings

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Draft for Consultation

Commissioned by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Royal College of Physicians

The Royal College of Surgeons of England

RCGP Royal College of General Practitioners

Royal College of Nursing

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Appendix P: Dressings

Dressing type	Cost per dressing change (dressing materials only[a])	Usual Presentation	Prime Treatment Objectives
Hydrocolloid dressing	£3.37 e.g. Activheal hydrocolloid (15cm x 15cm)	Hydrocolloid layer bonded to a film membrane or foam pad, Semi-permeable to water vapour and oxygen	Protection Rehydration of tissues Promote autolysis Absorption (moderate) Optimise the local wound healing environment
Gauze dressing	£1.02 per 10[b]	Cotton - plain weave Ideally should be non-filamented	Temporary covering Absorption (minimal) Padding agent
Foam dressing	£2.15[b] e.g. Activheal	Hydrophillic polyurethane foam with or without a plastic film backing. Adhesive and non- adhesive versions	Protection Absorption (moderate) Optimise the local wound healing environment
Polyurethane film membrane dressing	£2.38 e.g. Leukomed T (15cm x 25cm)	Vapour permeable (to water vapour and oxygen but impermeable to water and micro- organisms) sheets with or without a combined central island pad	Protection Minimise risk of infection (Barrier to micro-organisms) Optimise the local wound healing environment (superficial wounds) Can also be used as a secondary dressing to secure another interactive dressing in place e.g. Alginates
Collagen dressing	£6.31 e.g. Promogran (28 cm^2)	Collagen, silver and oxidised regenerated cellulose matrix sheets (needs to be covered by a secondary dressing)	Rebalancing the wound environment Protease modulating matrix dressings used to control the activity of proteolytic enzymes such as MMP's Stimulate healing

Dressing type	Cost per dressing change (dressing materials only[a])	Usual Presentation	Prime Treatment Objectives
Hydrogel	£7.51 e.g. Actiform cool (20x20cm)	Amorphous hydrogel (water donating) available in tubes or sheets of a fixed structure	Rehydration of tissues Promote autolysis Stimulate healing
Alginate	£3.34 e.g. Algosteril (10cm x 20cm)	Non-woven or fibrous, non-occlusive, made up of calcium alginate or a combination of calcium alginate and sodium alginate – derived form brown seaweed If has no integral backing sheet, needs to be covered by a secondary dressing	Fill lesions – sinus or cavity Absorption Removal of slough and /or cellular debris from the wound bed Assists with haemostasis (should not be prime reason for use) Stimulate healing
Charcoal dressing	£2.37 e.g. Clinisorb (10cm x 20cm)	Activated charcoal contained with another dressing material such as viscose rayon / foam / alginate	Odour absorbing Fluid absorption (minimal)
Phenytoin ointment	N/A		
Silver alginate	£7.26 e.g. Sorbsan Silver (10xm x 20cm)	An alginate (see above) impregnated with Silver	Anti-microbial effect Fill lesions – sinus or cavity Absorption Removal of slough and /or cellular debris from the wound bed Assists with haemostasis (should not be prime reason for use) Stimulate healing
Silver dressing	£12.62 e.g. Acticoat (10cm x 20cm)	Three layer dressing consisting of a polyester core between low adherent silver coated high density polyethylene mesh	Anti-microbial effect Minimise risk of infection (Barrier to micro-organisms) Absorption (moderate) Stimulate healing

Dressing type	Cost per dressing change (dressing materials only[a])	Usual Presentation	Prime Treatment Objectives
Sugar	£8.38 per 125gm[c]	Needs to made up as a paste (usually in pharmacy). Always requires a secondary dressing	Increase osmolarity of wound bed Antimicrobial effect Stimulate healing
Resin salve	N/A		
Hydrofibre dressing	£4.91 e.g. Aquacel (15cm x 15 cm)	Soft non-woven pad containing hydrocolloid fibres, resemble alginate dressings	Fill lesions – sinus or cavity Absorption (moderate) Removal of slough and /or cellular debris from the wound bed Assists with haemostasis (should not be prime reason for use) Stimulate healing

(a) Dressing costs obtained from the BNF[1] unless otherwise stated
(b) Cost obtained from NHS supply chain[2]
(c) Cost provided by GDG member

P.1 References

1 Joint Formulary Committee. British national formulary. 61st edition. London: British Medical Association and Royal Pharmaceutical Society; 2011. Available from: http://www.bnf.org.uk

2 NHS Business Services Authority. NHS electronic drug tariff. 2013. Available from: http://www.ppa.org.uk/ppa/edt_intro.htm [Last accessed: 16 July 2013]