

Askina® Calgitrol® Ag

Type	Improved wound healing	Antimicrobial Activity	Tolerability and Cytotoxicity	Page
Cohort	●	●		34

Askina® Calgitrol® Ag: clinical use of an advanced ionic silver dressing

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Objective

This open ended, non-controlled, non-randomized study assessed the clinical efficacy of an absorbent, isolating composite ionic silver dressing. Thirty-seven patients with infected or critically colonised wounds, but without deep infection requiring general antibiotic treatment, were recruited for the study.

Method

The evaluation parameters were: pain; evolution of the bacterial population as measured by swab; change in wound surface area (Visitrak® system); evolution of the infection. The clinical picture of infection was defined by criteria according to Harding and to Sibbald.

Dressings were changed at saturation.

The observation period was two weeks.

The assessment parameters were:

- 1) Evolution of the infection (defined by clinical criteria according to Harding and Sibbald).
- 2) Evolution of the bacterial population as measured by swab.
- 3) Pain (as measured on a visual analog scale [VAS]).
- 4) Changes in the base of the wound (classified as necrotic, infected, clean).
- 5) Monitoring of exudate by clinical observation of the amount of exudate defined as high (presence of perilesional maceration), average (saturation of the dressing within 48 hours), low (saturation after 72 hours).
- 6) Clinical evaluation of the lesion by the caregiver (resolved, improved, unchanged, worse).
- 7) Tracking of wound surface area (Visitrak®, Smith & Nephew); a reduction in wound surface area is generally considered as the true indicator of the progress of healing, as demonstrated in a study by Falanga, since re-epithelialization is activated only after all the needs of the wound have been taken care of.
- 8) Dressing in terms of comfort, wear time, performance and residuals.

Results

Infection.—Clinical signs of infection resolved in 34 of 37 cases (91.89%) within the 2-week observation period.

Wound improvement with resolution of infection was observed within 14 days of treatment in 34/37 patients; pain when changing dressings was present, especially at the first dressing. The evolution of the bacterial populations was present from the first week. Performance in terms of patient/operator comfort was very high.

Conclusion

The study product showed excellent overall performance on all given criteria. These results suggest that Askina® Calgitrol® Ag is performant silver dressing in terms of clinical efficiency, but also in terms of patients' comfort.