Assessment of 26 cases applying a prevention protocol using hyperoxygenated fatty acids together with a protective heel and malleolar dressing.

Authors: Bayarri E.;Canalda S.; Gallerani B.; Lucas M.; Ruiz G.; Solano P.

INTRODUCTION: The study is mainly involved in analysing grade I heel and malleolar pressure ulcers, as well as the prevention of such lesions from occurring in these regions. The products used in the prevention and treatment of grade I ulcers are: on one hand, **Linovera®** (hyperoxygenated fatty acids) and on the other, **Askina® Heel** (hydrocellular heel dressing). During the six-week study period, various properties of these products were assessed; regarding Linovera, the comfort, tolerability, absorption, ease of application, and odour were evaluated, while for Askina® Heel, the adaptability, ease of application and ease of removal were assessed.

OBJECTIVE: This study consists mainly of evaluating the use of two products; hyperoxygenated fatty acids, and hydrocellular heel dressing, both for the prevention and treatment of Grade I pressure ulcers.

MATERIALS & METHODS: A descriptive study was carried out in the period from 20/04/06 to 22/06/06. The following was studied for the hydrocellular dressing: adaptability, ease of application, ease of removal, while for hyperoxygenated fatty acids, the study focused at the comfort, tolerability, absorption, ease of application and odour.

RESULTS:

- 100% of the enrolled patients complied with all inclusion and exclusion criteria.
- 42% of studied patients had healthy skin at the outset of the study and remained this way throughout the entire period.
- 23% of the patients showed desquamation, erythema and/or eczema at study outset with resolution occurring in no more than two weeks.
- 35% of the patients showed eczema, desquamation or maceration at study outset with resolution occurring in three weeks or more.
- In 100% of the cases, the properties of both products were rated as good or very good.
- Regarding the heel and malleolar dressing, in 96% of the cases, the reason for replacement was soiling, and in the rest, it was due either to loss or to the patient's request.

CONCLUSIONS: 1. 100% of the enrolled patients complied with all inclusion and exclusion criteria. 2. In 100% of patients with healthy skin, the use of both products prevents the development of pressure ulcers on the heel and malleoli. 3. In 100% of patients with some type of lesion at study outset, such lesions resolved satisfactorily within the duration of the study.