

ALLEVYN Ag Gentle for a fungating breast wound

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 **smith&nephew**
ALLEVYN[®] Ag
GENTLE
Silicone Gel Adhesive
Antimicrobial Hydrocellular
Foam Dressing



ALLEVYN Ag applied



Day 15

Background

- 88-year-old woman in palliative care
- Barthel Index of 85 and Palliative Performance Status of 70
- Patient showed symptoms of discomfort and social isolation with raised anxiety levels at dressing change
- Gauze dressings being changed 3–4 times daily

Aims and case challenges

- Reduce bioburden and infection
- Manage abundant exudate
- Reduce pain, irritation and bleeding
- Reduce odour
- Enhance patient comfort
- Maintain quality of life for the patient and carer

Management

- ALLEVYN Gentle dressing applied from October 2009–February 2010
- Dressings changed to ALLEVYN Ag Gentle due to suspected infection in February 2010 and continued for 15 days
- Management then resumed with ALLEVYN Gentle until the patients death at home in March 2010

Outcomes

- After 15 days of treatment with ALLEVYN Ag Gentle, bacterial load and signs and symptoms of infection were significantly reduced
- Overall, the patient adjusted well to the new dressing regime, due to the reduced frequency of dressing changes and the gentle dressing adherence
- Dressing changes were reduced to every 3 days
- Less bleeding, pain and irritation
- Reduced anxiety at dressing change and improved patient comfort

HIGHLIGHTS

- Reduces bacterial bioburden and signs of infection
- Reduces pain, bleeding and irritation
- Manages exudate and reduces odour
- Enhances patient comfort and wellbeing