

Use of ALLEVYN[®] Gentle Border on a delicate forearm flap

Introduction

- 65 year old male
- Radical head and neck surgery
- Forearm flap used to replace facial bone
- Following skin graft – forearm flap broke down

Case challenge

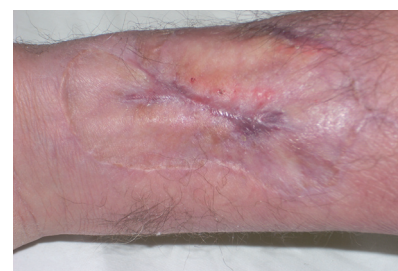
- Hugely challenging area as wrist is a very mobile area with limited blood supply
- Wound extended over 15.1cm² area
- Presence of hypergranulation (previous dressings used were Prisma Matrix™ and Tielle™)
- Surrounding skin fragile (including skin graft)
- Protection of soft granulation tissue over tendon

Treatment aims

- To prevent further tissue breakdown
- To use an extremely conformable dressing that was able to move with the wrist area
- Prevent any trauma to the patient and surrounding tissue whilst in situ and on removal (especially skin graft)
- Reduce hypergranulation tissue
- Promote healing

Results

- Dressing changes once a week at clinic - and once a week by patients wife saving them a 60-mile-round trip to hospital
- After 17 days wound almost half original size (from 15.1cm² to 8.4cm²)
- Wound re-epithelialising from wound margins
- Hypergranulation was flattening
- No trauma to soft granulation tissue / skin graft on removal



Quotes

'This is an ideal dressing for protecting the soft granulation tissue over the tendon'

'In every review you can see there's no trauma to the surrounding tissue ... he (patient) found it very comfortable dressing on his arm due to the conformability'

'He's a happy man now'

Fiona Russell, CNS Tissue Viability