

POLICY & PROCEDURES

MedVance® Alginate Dressing Surgical Wound Dressings

Policy

This policy is intended to support the wound care clinical team in providing consistent, evidence-based, quality standards of care including selection and use of appropriate wound care products consistent with patient wound care needs, product indications and instructions, and facility policies and procedures.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION: MedVance® Alginate Dressing

MedVance® Alginate Dressings are produced from high mannuronic (rapid gelling) calcium alginate fibers and are available in both non-woven pad and rope formats suitable for full thickness wounds or undermined and cavity wounds, respectively. MedVance® Alginate Dressing is highly absorbent forming a protective, conforming gel on contact with wound exudate. The gelling action absorbs and traps exudate, maintains intimate contact with the wound surface, and provides a moist wound healing environment with pain-free, atraumatic removal.

INDICATIONS FOR USE

MedVance® Alginate Dressing is indicated for the management of moderate to heavily exuding acute or chronic wounds, including venous leg ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, pressure injury wounds, donor sites, and partial and full thickness burns.

FREQUENCY OF CHANGE

Dressing change frequency will vary as wound healing progresses. Daily dressing changes may be required initially until exudation decreases. Change when dressing is saturated, soiled, or according to local protocol (up to seven days). Alginate dressings are reimbursed up to 30 per month.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Alginate dressings may be trimmed to fit to the wound edge
- Pack cavities and undermined areas loosely to allow for expansion
- For ease of removal from wound site, moisten alginate with saline solution

PRECAUTIONS

- MedVance® Alginate is not appropriate for use on dry or lightly exuding wounds or those covered with dry necrosis
- Do not use on patients with known sensitivity or allergy to alginates
- Packaged product is provided sterile for single use only
- Do not use if package is open or damaged
- Do not re-sterilize
- Discontinue use of the dressing and notify appropriate medical personnel if signs of infection are observed

Procedure

SUPPLIES

- MedVance® Alginate Dressing (pad and/or rope)
- Secondary dressing, with or without border
- Securement devices (e.g., medical tape, roll gauze, stockinette, tubular dressing)
- Clean, disposable gloves
- Wound cleanser (facility approved)
- Sterile, non-woven gauze pads
- Medical tape
- Medical waste container (facility approved)

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

1. Gather supplies
2. Follow facility protocol for hand washing and gloving techniques
3. Carefully remove and dispose of soiled dressing following facility protocol for disposal of medical waste
4. Follow wound bed preparation per facility protocol, including wound cleansing and debridement
5. Open sterile, single-use alginate dressing package and remove from pouch
6. Apply alginate dressing to wound
 - a. Alginate pad extending to wound edges
 - b. Alginate rope to fit loosely in tunnel or undermining
7. Secure alginate dressing with appropriate secondary dressing
8. Clean wound care procedure area. Remove all supplies utilized for dressing change
9. Remove and dispose of gloves
10. Wash hands
11. Document name, date, time of dressing change per local protocol

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