**Berkshire Wide – Wound Care Formulary Inpatient units**

This wound care formulary is designed to provide clinical staff with a comprehensive guide to wound dressing products. It has been devised based upon the evidence base and cost effectiveness of treatments for the majority of wounds. The dressings suggested are adequate for the majority of situations.

This formulary has been developed to assist the clinical practitioner in the decision making process when caring and prescribing for patients requiring wound care. It aims to help prescribers choose the most appropriate products whilst ensuring value for money in the use of NHS resources. It is applicable to all prescribers working within Berkshire. Formularies should promote rational prescribing by encouraging safe, effective, appropriate and economic use of the products contained within them. All the products in the formulary have been selected taking into account available supporting clinical evidence by a panel of trust wide practitioners who have specialist knowledge and expertise in wound care.

Alternatives should only be used on the recommendation of the Tissue Viability Nurse, if you require a product that is not available through the wound care formulary you will need to complete a specialist dressing request selection should be based upon a comprehensive and holistic assessment of the patient and their wound, this can be found on the intranet in the tissue viability pages. Once the wound aetiology and the intended treatment outcome has been confirmed, an appropriate product can be selected.

Wound care products are tools that can help promote healing; dressings do no more than facilitate wound healing by providing the optimal environment for healing to proceed. Wounds will repair as long as there is adequate oxygen and nutrients, therefore factors which impede healing (such as poor vascular supply, compromised nutritional state) need to be identified and corrected, if possible.

**Notes for using the Formulary**

* The Formulary should not be used in isolation and should not replace sound clinical judgement.
* Practitioners with specialist wound care knowledge should be referred to if necessary.

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| **It must be emphasised that a holistic wound assessment must take place prior to choosing an appropriate dressing** |

**Wound Contact Layers**

Low adherent primary dressings for light exuding wounds or granulating wounds. Can be left in place for up to 7 days. These dressings are clinically indicated for wounds including superficial partial thickness burns, donor sites, postoperative wounds, skin abrasions, pressure ulcers and leg ulcers.

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|  | Company | Sizes available  |
| Na Ultra  | Systagenix | 9.5x9.5cm, 9.5x19cm |

**Basic Dressings**

This is a basic wound care dressing that can be used as a primary or secondary dressing. They are for low to moderate exuding wounds. They are not waterproof or bacteria proof.

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|  | Company | Sizes available  |
| Softpore  | Richardson Healthcare | 6x7cm, 10x10cm, 10x15cm, 10x20cm, 10x25cm, 10x35cm |

**Hydrofibre and** **Calcium-sodium alginate dressings**

Kaltostat is a sterile non-woven calcium-sodium alginate fibre dressing. On contact with a bleeding wound it promotes haemostats.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Aquacel Extra | ConvaTec | 5x5cm, 10x10cm, 15x15cm |
| Aquacel Ribbon | ConvaTec | 1x45cm, 2x45cm |
| Kaltostat | ConvaTec | 7.5x12cm |

**Skin Protectant/Barrier Products**

These products create a barrier that protects the skin from moisture (urine, faeces, wound exudate and sweat). The film barriers generally last about 72 hours. The film barriers can be used in conjunction with the application of a dressing as they do not clog the skin or make it greasy. The cream barrier products are for use to protect the skin from urine and faeces, and should be re-applied when the skin has been cleansed.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes available  |
| Sensi-care (Film Barrier)  | ConvaTec | 1ml, 3ml, 28ml spray |
| Proshield Cleanser spray  | H&R Healthcare | 235ml |
| Proshield Barrier Cream | H&R Healthcare | 115g |
| Medihoney barrier cream | Derma Sciences | 90g tube, 2g sachets (20 per pack) |

**Foam Dressings**

Foam dressings offer a variety of benefits; they are absorbent, insulating the wound, provide a moist wound healing environment, adhesive waterproof barrier. The exudate is held within the foam. May be used for all types of wounds.

**Caution Note**: Adhesive dressings should not be used under bandages or under compression bandages. Not to be used as a secondary dressing over hydrogels.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes available  |
| Aquacel Foam Non Adhesive  | ConvaTec | 5x5cm, 10x10cm, 15x15cm, 15x20cm, 20x20cm |
| Aquacel Foam Adhesive  | ConvaTec | 8x8cm, 12.5x12.5cm, 17.5x17.5cm, 21x21cm, 25x30cm. Sacral shape – 20x16.9cm. Heel Shape – 19.8x14cm  |
| Biatain Soft Hold  | ConvaTec | 10x10cm, 10x20cm, 15x15cm |
| Biatain Silicone  | ConvaTec | 7.5x7.5cm, 10x10cm |

**Hydrocolloid dressings**

Hydrocolloids are suitable for clean, granulating wounds or sloughy/necrotic wounds. They are indicated for low to moderately exuding wounds as they have a limited capacity and the level of exudate production depends on the frequency with which the dressings are changed. Hydrocolloid dressings are primary dressings.

**Caution Note**: Hydrocolloid dressings should not be used on diabetic feet or patients with peripheral vascular disease. To be used in caution for diabetic patients with other wounds. Intact necrotic areas below the ankle should be kept dry (All patients with necrotic wounds below the ankle, should be referred to the podiatrist).

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available  |
| Duoderm Extra Thin | ConvaTec | 7.5x7.5, 10x10cm  |
| Granuflex  | ConvaTec | 10x10cm |
| Granuflex bordered | ConvaTec | 10x10cm |

**Film Dressings**

Film dressings can be used as primary or secondary dressings, and are for shallow wounds such as donor sites, minor burns, grazes, skin tears, and postoperative incisions. Films are highly flexible in nature which can be useful over joints. Due to the transparent nature of the dressing it allows the healthcare practitioner to view the wound through the dressing. They are for use on wounds with low exudate levels. A margin of overlap with the skin of approximately 4cm should be allowed.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available  |
| Clearpore | Richardson Healthcare  | 6x7cm, 6x10cm, 10x10cm, 10x15cm, 10x20cm, 10x25cm, 10x30cm |
| Clearfilm  | Richardson Healthcare | 6x7cm, 10x12cm |

**Hydrogels**

Hydrogels are suited to the management of dry wounds and provide a moist wound healing environment. Hydrogels are able to rehydrate the wound and facilitate autolysis. Dressings are generally changed every 1-3 days. Hydrogels offer a soothing and cooling effect on application and have been used on radiotherapy burns, burns, pressure ulcers, cavity wounds.

**Caution Note:** Hydrogel dressings should not be used on diabetic feet or patients with peripheral vascular disease. To be used in caution for diabetic patients with other wounds. Intact necrotic areas below the ankle should be kept dry (All patients with necrotic wounds below the ankle, should be referred to the podiatrist). Do not apply an absorbent dressing over a hydrogel.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| AquaForm Hydrogel  | Aspen Medical Europe | 8g |

**Antimicrobials**

For infected wounds, short term. Review use after 14 days. To be used in conjunction with the wound infection flow chart.

**Dacc (Dialkylcarbamoylchloride)**

These products have been developed for the treatment of infected wounds and fungal infections. They can be used on all types of wounds, from lightly to highly exuding and from contaminated and colonised to infected wounds. Unlike traditional antimicrobial dressings, they do not contain any chemically or pharmacologically active substances and rely on a physical mode of action using a hydrophobic coating made from dialkylcarbamoylchloride (commonly known as DACC) to reduce the bacterial load in a wound.

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|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Cutimed sorbact swabs | BSN Medical  | 4x6cm, 7x9cm |
| Cutimed sorbact ribbon | BSN Medical | 2cmx45cm |
| Cutimed sorbact swab with gel | BSN Medical | 7.5x7.5cm, 7.5x15cm |
| Cutimed sorbact hydroactive  | BSN Medical | 7x8.5cm |

**Iodine**

Iodine is used for wound cleansing, wound bed preparation and to manage infection. It is active against a wide range of pathogens including MRSA. Dressings may be left in place for up to 7 days, but this is determined by the rate of exudation. It is widely acknowledged that cadexomer preparations have de-sloughing capability.

**Caution Note**: Should be avoided during pregnancy and lactation. Should be used with caution for patients with thyroid disorders.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Povitulle  | CD Medical  | 5x5cm, 9.5x9.5cm |
| Iodoflex | Smith & Nephew | 5g paste 6x4cm |

**Honey Dressings**

Honey is indicated for a wide variety of wounds types including infected, acute, and chronic wounds, oncology –related lesions and burns. Honey is a potent antibacterial agent with broad spectrum of activity against a wide range of organisms including Gram-positive, Gram-negative and multi-resistant species. Honey also creates and environment that promotes autolytic debridement. Honey deodorises wounds because bacteria prefer sugar to protein, this means the metabolic product is lactic acid, as opposed to malodorous compounds. Honey also has anti-inflammatory properties. Honey also stimulates granulation tissue formation and promotes healing.

**Caution note:** If using in diabetic patients, blood glucose should be monitored regularly.

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|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Medihoney Apnate (Honey Alginate) | Derma Sciences | 5x5cm, 10x10cm, 1.9x30cm |
| Medihoney Tulle  | Derma Sciences | 10x10cm |
| Actilite  | Derma Sciences | 5x5cm, 10x10cm |
| Medihoney HCS Non adhesive (Cooling honey hydrogel) | Derma Sciences | 6x6cm, 11x11cm |
| Medihoney HCS Adhesive (Cooling honey hydrogel) | Derma Sciences | 7.2x7.2cm, 11.5x11.5cm |
| Medihoney Tubes (reusable for up to 3 months) | Derma Sciences | 20g, 50g |
| Medihoney barrier cream | Derma Sciences | 90g tube, 2g sachets (20 per pack) |

**Silver antimicrobial dressings (specialist formulary only)**

Silver dressings should still be considered for use but only by a TVCNS. The Vulcan study published in 2009 discusses the use of silver dressings in healing wounds. The study shows that the silver dressings do not help to heal wounds, which is correct. In the Vulcan study they were used for of 12 weeks and on wounds which were not infected. The wounds treated were also venous leg ulcers; nowhere in the study does it talk of what treatment the patients were receiving to correct the venous incompetency. What silver dressings do is reduce the bacterial load of the wound and rid the wound of infection. This is their sole purpose and they should only be used for a period of an initial two weeks then reviewed. (Leaper, D & Drake, R 2011)

It is proposed that these are used as a last resort when treating wound infection due to the high cost and obtained though the TVN’s who would order only a two week supply for the patient in question. Staffs are expected to complete a specialist dressing order form and give rationale for use of the product, they would also have to demonstrate that they have followed the infection flow chart (attached). They will also need to demonstrate that the patient still has two or more signs of infection present form the infection indicators list.

**Absorbent Pads**

These absorbent pads are suitable for application on heavily exuding wounds; the dressings retain the exudate and prevent maceration to the peri-wound skin.

**Caution Note:** These should not be used under compression bandages as they will affect the way in which the bandage works and will not absorb as much exudate. Instead they should be used after the compression bandaging has been applied.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Zetuvit Plus  | Paul Hartman | 10x10cm, 15x20cm, 20x25cm |
| Flivasorb  | Activa Healthcare | 20x30cm |

**Tubular Bandage**

Elasticated cotton tubular retention bandages.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Actifast  | Activa Healthcare | Blue Line 7.5cmx10m, Yellow Line 10.75cmx10m |
| Tubegauz  | Molnlycke Healthcare | 20m length rolls sizes, 01, 012, 056, 078 |

**Retention Bandages**

**Caution note:** If being used on a leg it needs to be applied joint to joint, i.e. toe to knee.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| K-Band | Urgo | 5cmx4m, 7cmx4m |

**Support Bandages**

**Caution note:** If being used on a leg it needs to be applied joint to joint, i.e. toe to knee.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| K Lite  | Urgo | 10cmx5m |

**Sub Compression Wadding**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company  | Sizes available  |
| K Soft  | Urgo |  |

**Paste Bandages**

Zinc paste bandages can be used for the treatment/management of eczema, dermatitis. Also can be used for leg ulceration.

**Caution Note:** Follow manufactures application guide.

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|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Viscopaste pb7 zinc paste bandage | Smith & Nephew | 7.5cmx6m |

**Dressing Packs and Miscellaneous products**

**Dressings Packs**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Nurse IT sterile dressing packs  | Medicare Plus International | S/M M/L Boxes of 10 |
| Vernoncarus sterile fields  | Vernoncarus sterile fields | Box of 10 |

**Tapes**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Chemifix | Medicare Plus International | 5cmx10m, 10cmx10m |
| Chemipore | Medicare Plus International | 1.25cmx5m, 2.5cmx5m, 5cmx5m |

**Cleaning solutions/ Debridement Pads**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Irripod 0.9% topical solution  | CD Medical | 20ml box of 25 |
| Miniversol sodium chloride  | Agnettant | 45ml box of 24 |
| Debrisoft | Activa Healthcare | 10x10cm box of 5  |

**Wound Closures**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Steri-strip  | 3M Healthcare | 6mmx75mm |

**Adhesive Remover Spray**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Sensi-care spray  | ConvaTec | 150ml |

**Podiatry Only/shared care**

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|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Sorbsan Plus | Aspen Medical Europe | 7.5x10cm |

**Gauze**

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|  | Company | Sizes Available |
| Topper 8 swabs sterile  | Systagenix | 7.5x7.5cm |
| Unsterile Gauze  | Generic band | 10x10cm |

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|  | **Necrotic** | **Sloughy** | **Granulating** | **Epithelialising** |
| TreatmentGoals | * Debridement
* Manage exudate
* Protect from infection
* Hyhdration

**See notes with regards to diabetic patients** | * Debridement
* Remove excess exudate
* Proect from infection
 | * Optimise moist wound healing
* Manage exudate
* Protect from infection
 | * Optimise moist wound healing
* Protect from infection
 |
| **For infected wounds see the wound infection algorithm** |  |  |  | epithelialising |
|  | **Primary** | **Secondary** | **Primary** | **Secondary** | **Primary** | **Secondary** | **Primary** | **Secondary** |
| Low ExudateLevels | **Hydrocolloid:** DuoDERM, Granuflex, **Foam:** Aquacel Foam |  | **Hydrogel:**  Aqua gel, **Hydrocolloid:** DuoDERM, Granuflex, | **Hydrocolloid** if required DuoDERM, Granuflex, | Hydrocolloid DuoDERM, Granuflex |  | Thin hydrocolloid, DuoDerm |  |
| Medium Exudate Levels | **Hydrogel**: Aqua gel **Hydrofibre:** Aquacel Ex | **Hydrocolloid**: DuoDERM, Granuflex, **Foam:** Aquacel Foam | **Hydrogel**:Aqua gel **Hydrofibre:** Aquacel Ex Consider larvae via TVN  | **Hydrocolloid**: DuoDERM, Granuflex, **Foam**: Aquacel Foam | Hydrocolloid, DuoDERM, Granuflex, Foam Aquacel Foam |  | Thin hydrocolloid, DuoDERM Foam Aquacel Foam |  |
| High Exudate Levels | **Hydrofibre:** Aquacel Ex | **Foam:** Aquacel Foam or Exudate manager | **Hydrofibre:** Aquacel Ex | **Foam**: Aquacel Foam or Exudate manager | Hydrofibre Aquacel Ex | Foam Aquacel Foam or Exudate manager | Foam Aquacel Foam |  |
| Cavity | **Hydrogel:** Aqua gel **Hydrofibre**: Aquacel Ex | **Foam:** Aquacel Foam or Exudate manager | **Hydrogel:** Aqua gel **Hydrofibre**: Aquacel Ex | **Foam:** Aquacel Foam or Exudate manager | **Hydrofibre** Aquacel Large cavities may be suitable for topical negative pressure systems, via TVN | Foam Aquacel Foam or Exudate manager |  |  |

**NB – Diabetic foot ulcers should be referred to podiatry. Intact necrotic areas on heels, diabetic feet or on patients with PVD keep dry.**