

**[EP343] COMPARISON OF HYALURONIC ACID CONTAINING PRODUCTS WITH WET DRESSING FOR SEVERE DECUBITUS ULCERS**

Asu Ozgultekin, Semih Güner, Onur Şahin Ozyol, Tuna Karahan, Osman Ekinci

University of Health Sciences Haydarpaşa Training and Research Hospital Istanbul, Turkey

**Aim:** The factors known to be important in the healing process, such as the control of pressure on the wound, nutritional adequacy, protection of the infection from infectious diseases, should be supported by good wound care. Autolytic debridement and dressings containing ester of hyaluronic acid were compared with standard wet wound dressing in patients with severe decubitus ulcerations.

**Method:** Forty-one patients who were admitted to intensive care and palliative care units for various reasons, who expected to stay more than a week, who already had or developed decubitus ulcer during their stay, were included and randomly divided into two groups. Applications were made once every three days.

Group 1 (n = 19) had wet dressings and surgical debridement if necessary. Group 2 (n=22) was treated with a hyaluronic acid ester-sodium alginate containing product. All patients were monitored until were discharged or lost. Staging (1-4) and wound sizes were used in the follow-up examinations. Shapiro Wilk and Wilcoxon tests were used for the statistical analysis. The p <0.05 level was considered significant in all evaluations.

**Results / Discussion:** The follow-up period of the study patients ranged from 1 to 6 weeks. There was no difference between demographic data of the groups; Nutritional Risk Screening (NRS 2002) and prealbumin values.

The initial mean wound sizes measured in group 1 were 29,9 cm<sup>2</sup> (median: 12 cm<sup>2</sup>) and 198,4cm<sup>2</sup> (median: 15 cm<sup>2</sup>) in group 2. The final mean measurements in group 1 were 20,6 cm<sup>2</sup> (median: 8 cm<sup>2</sup>) and 24,5 cm<sup>2</sup> (median: 4 cm<sup>2</sup>) in group 2.

Statistical values	Wound sizes – hyaluronic acid product Group 1: (n = 22)		Wound sizes – wet dressing Group 2: (n = 19)	
	Before hyaluronic acid product usage	After hyaluronic acid product usage	Before wet dressing usage	After wet dressing usage
	mm		mm	
• Mean	198,4091	24,5455	29,9474	20,6842
• Median	15,0000	4,0000	12,0000	8,0000
• Std. Deviation	490,57562	78,81306	34,90379	32,48085
• Range	2024,00	375,00	118,00	125,00
• Minimum	1,0	0,00	2,00	,00
• Maximum	2025,00	375,00	120,00	125,0
	p < 0.007**		p < 0.076*	

Table 1



The measurements in the wet dressing group patients did not show statistically significant difference between the initial and the final measurements ( $p < 0.076^*$ ), whereas the differences were statistically significant in the hyaluronic product group 2 ( $p < 0.007^{**}$ ). The improvements in wound stages in both groups were shown in table 1, that is clinically more prominent in group 2 patients. In wound stage, in stage 4 patients, stage 3 and stage 2 retinopathy were seen especially in the hyaluronic product group.

**Conclusion:** Decubitus ulcers are a major problem in intensive care patients. When both treatments modalities are evaluated, both groups reduced the wound size of the decubitus ulcer within the observational period. However, in the hyaluronic group, the recovery figures were found to be statistically more significant than in der comparative wet dressing group. We concluded that dressings containing hyaluronic acid ester are superior to the wet dressings in terms of faster wound healing.