Exufiber®
Burn

Exufiber® is a gelling fibre dressing with Hydrolock® Technology that both absorbs wound exudate and then keeps it locked into its fibres. Exufiber conforms well to the wound and reduces the risk of leakage and maceration, helping to create an optimal healing environment. Hydrolock Technology also means Exufiber stays intact when wet, without the need for further reinforcement, making it easy to remove in one piece during dressing changes. Exufiber can be used on a wide range of exuding wounds.

Patient history

- A 39-year old male presented at the clinic with a second-degree burn resulting from contact with a wood-burning stove
- The patient had no ongoing co-morbidities or medication/therapy that could have affected the wound

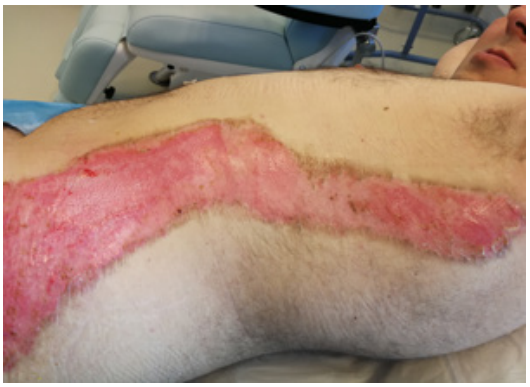
Wound history

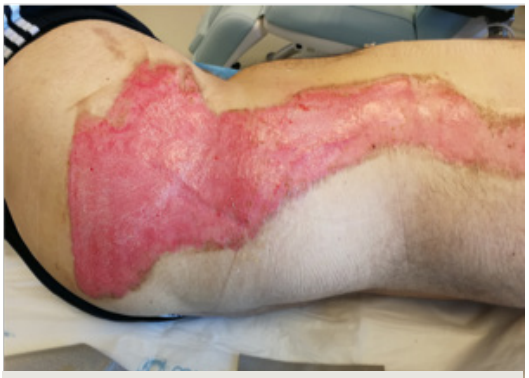
- The wound, located on the left side of the body, ranged from under the left armpit down to the buttock and had an area of 247.5cm^2. The burn wound had been present for six days
- The wound bed was made up of 5% slough/fibrinous tissue, 85% granulation tissue and 10% epithelialised tissue
- Several clinical signs of wound infection were recorded: swelling, increased pain, oedema and increased exudation
- Moderate levels of clear/serous exudate were observed
- The wound edge and the peri-wound skin were healthy and intact
- Pain experienced during the dressing change procedure, as measured on a visual analogue scale (VAS) ranging from 0 (no pain) to 10 (maximum pain ever), was evaluated. At the baseline assessment, the patient recorded a VAS of 6 during the removal of the previously used dressing.
- The wound had previously been treated with Mepilex® Transfer Ag and Mesorb®. Mefix® was used for fixation.

Treatment regime

- Throughout the study, Exufiber was used as the primary wound dressing. An oat beta glucan cream was applied to the burn after cleansing and a polyurethane film was used as the secondary dressing
- Treatment with Exufiber was monitored over an 8-day period, during which the patient attended two follow-up visits
- At the follow-up visits, the dressing was changed. Dressing changes were performed according to local clinical practice or when the dressing became saturated. Dressings were always changed at each of the clinic visits; in between the scheduled visits, dressings were changed at the discretion of the patient/clinician
- At least three Exufiber dressings (20x30cm) were used at each dressing change and during the study period two dressing changes were performed; the median dressing change frequency was four days

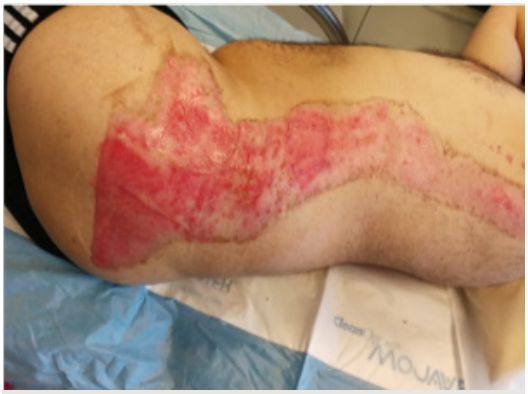
Start of evaluation (day 1)





A large 6-day old second degree burn with signs of clinical wound infection and moderate levels of clear/serous wound exudate.

First follow-up visit (day 4)



After four days of treatment with Exufiber, the composition of the wound bed was 90% granulation tissue and 10% epithelialised tissue. There were no clinical signs of wound infection. Clear/serous wound exudate was low.

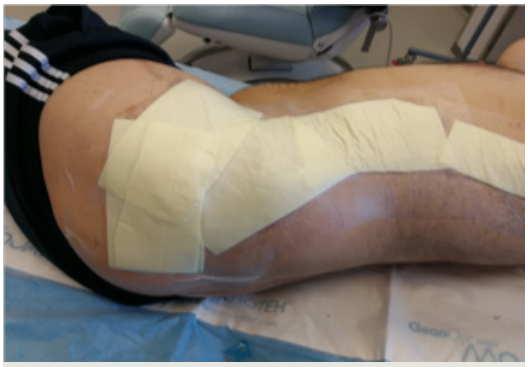
Follow-up assessments

- Over the treatment period, the condition of the wound improved and at the final follow-up visit the wound bed was composed of 98% epithelial tissue and 2% granulation tissue
- After four days of treatment, there were no clinical signs of infection.
- Throughout the study period the wound edge and the peri-wound skin were healthy and intact
- At all follow-up visits wound exudation was low and clear/serous in nature
- The patient reported a VAS of 2-3 at the initial dressing change assessment, with a VAS of 0 at the final study visit

Clinical outcome

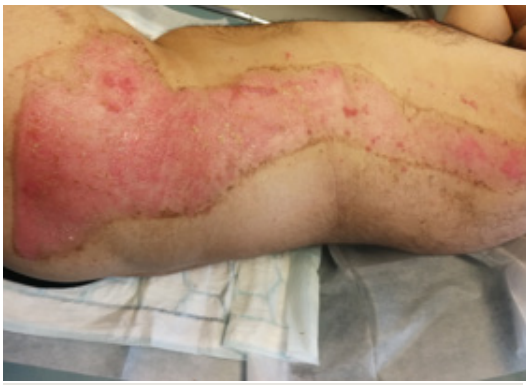
- After eight days of treatment with Exufiber®, the wound had significantly improved. Further treatment was continued after the study period ended, but only with the oat beta glucan cream
- At the baseline visit, the nurses rated Exufiber as 'Good' for its ease of application and flexibility of handling. At the first follow-up assessment, the nurses rated Exufiber as 'Excellent' for its ease of application and flexibility of handling, its conformability to the wound bed and its contours, and at the final assessment they also rated the ease of removal of Exufiber without pain or tissue damage, its drainage handling capacity (exudate absorption/retention capacity), and its ability to 'clean' the wound bed (i.e. remove blood, pus, slough etc.) as 'Excellent'
- The patient reported that, prior to the study, previous wound dressings failed to conform well to the wound and 'came off' easily, sleep was disturbed, and movement was painful. The patient reported Exufiber dressings were comfortable to wear.

Dressing application (day 4)



Exufiber conformed well to the wound.

End of evaluation (day 33)



At the final evaluation the wound exhibited 2% granulation and 98% epithelialised tissue.

Acknowledgement: Photographs and case notes kindly supplied by Arja Korhonen, Registered Wound Nurse, Kainuun keskussairaala, Sotkamontie 13, 87300 Kajaani, Finland

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