Guide to Burn Dressings

Xeroform – Sterile, fine mesh gauze impregnated with a blend of 3% Bismuth Tribromophenate (Xeroform) and USP petrolatum. It's non-adherent to wound sites and helps maintain a moist wound environment. The 3% Bismuth Tribromophenate (Xeroform), provides deodorizing action. It can be used as a primary dressing. Commonly used over topical ointments, skin grafts or donor sites. Do not use in children less than 1 year.

Vaseline Gauze – Fine mesh gauze which is non-adherent to wound sites and helps maintain a moist wound environment. Commonly used in children under one year of age instead of xeroform.

ADAPTIC – Non-adhering dressing protects the fragile tissue in wounds by its unique structure with small mesh size, preventing tissue adherence to either the ADAPTIC dressing or the secondary dressing on top of it. The mesh allows for exudate to easily pass through to easily pass through to the secondary dressing used, preventing maceration of the wound surface. Knitted cellulose acetate fabric allows ADAPTIC to be cut to wound size without unraveling or shredding. ADAPTIC Non-adhering dressing removes cleanly from the wound, minimizing trauma and pain. It is used over skin grafts during the initial days while the graft is still fragile or as a layer between a wound vac and skin graft.

Mepilex Foam– A soft and highly conformable foam dressing that absorbs exudate and maintains a moist wound environment. The safetac technology prevents Mepilex from sticking to the wound bed yet adheres gently to the surrounding skin allowing easy application of secondary fixation. In addition, the Safetac layer ensures that the dressing can be changed without damaging the wound or surrounding skin or subjecting the patient to additional pain. Mepilex absorbs exudate effectively and ensures a low risk of maceration. Used over highly exudative partial thickness burn wounds or over santyl collagenase in which the dressing does not need to be changed every day. Typically, Mepilex may stay in place for 3-5 days.

Mepilex AG – This is a version of Mepilex where silver has been added. Silver kills bacteria and might be used both for preventing infection and also on wounds with signs of local infection. The unique and patented Safetac adhesive makes sure that the dressing can be changed without damage to the wound or skin around it. This makes the dressing change as pain free as possible and also makes sure that the skin around the wound stays dry. Mepilex AG is preferred to Mepilex foam over macerated skin. May be used over highly exudative partial thickness burns or as a donor site dressing. Only needs to be changed every 3-5 days.

Mepitel – An atraumatic contact layer featuring single sided, exclusive patented Safetac (soft silicone) technology that will not stick to moist tissue such as a wound bed but adheres gently to intact skin. The exclusive Safetac layer seals the wound edges, which prevents the exudate

from leaking onto the surrounding skin and minimizes the risk of maceration. Safetac technology ensures that the dressing can be changed without damaging the wound or surrounding skin or exposing the patient to additional pain. Mepitel can be used on skin tears, fixation of grafts, traumatic wounds, partial thickness burns, painful skin conditions with blisters, and wounds in the granulation phase. Commonly used as a non-stick layer between a wound vac and a skin graft.

Acticoat – The silver found in ACTICOAT dressings is the unique nanocrystalline SILCRYST silver. It provides the patient with a comfortable and effective dressing, the ACTICOAT range also benefits the clinicians that work with it and the Health Care systems that pay for treatment of wounds. Acticoat 3 should be changed every 3 days and Acticoat 7 may be used up to 7 days. Used in SJS, TENS or partial thickness burns if the open areas are large to prevent daily wound care. May also be used over Integra or as a layer between wound vac and skin graft. Activate silver with sterile water, do not use with normal saline.

Aquacel – Dressings reinforced with nylon, absorbent dressing is soft, sterile non-woven hydro entangled dressing comprised of hydro fiber with nylon thread used to stitch bond the product along the length. This conformable and highly absorbent dressing absorbs wound fluid and creates a soft gel which maintains a moist environment which supports the body's healing process and aid in the removal of unnecessary material from the wound (autolytic debridement), without damaging newly formed tissue.

Integra – In the first surgical procedure the wound is excised to viable tissue and INTEGRA Template is applied. Over the next 21-30 days the dermal layer is regenerated. The biodegradable template induces organized regeneration of normal dermal tissue by the body. In the second surgical procedure following dermal regeneration, the silicone layer is removed and a thin epidermal auto graft is applied. Used when vital structures, such as tendon or bone, are exposed to promote angiogenesis and a dermal layer which may eventually be grafted over.

Kaltostat – Alginate dressing which promotes hemostasis and manages exudates in wounds. Can be applied on donor sites when oozing or on overly moist, hypergranulating wounds.

Tegasorb – Polyurethane film, coated with a layer of an acrylic adhesive. The film, which is impermeable to exudate and micro-organisms, extends past the border of a hydrocolloid mass composed of polyisobutylene in which are dispersed hydrophilic gelable polysaccharide particles. When the dressing comes into contact with wound fluid if forms a soft gel-like mass, providing a moist wound environment that facilitates healing without causing maceration. Commonly used over donor sites to absorb fluids and allow healing. May be kept in place for up to one week and changed as needed for leaking or prior to discharge from hospital.

Bridal Veil Nylon (BVN) Provides a "trellis effect", acting as a supporting structure across which, or over which, epithelium will grow more rapidly than it would without the dressing. BVN is used to secure recent skin grafts. It is possible to examine wounds directly and to clean them with whatever technique is indicated, including hydrotherapy, yet not to disrupt underlying structures such as skin grafts.

Burn Flats /Burn Vest–Thick, large pieces of gauze used as secondary dressing to absorb fluids or over skin graft to provide protection. Burn vest used over torso to secure dressings.

Kerlix – gauze rolls used to absorb wound exudate and hold dressings in place. Kerlix should not be placed directly over wound bed.

Kling – Small bandage rolls, typically used for fingers and hands.

Stretch net (Spandage) – Used to maintain placement of dressings. Preferred over fingers and extremities.

Topicals:

Bacitracin – Used for partial thickness and superficial abrasions. Commonly used on partial thickness facial burns and should be applied at least four times a day to keep wound moist.

Gentamicin Ointment – Antibiotic ointment used for partial thickness burns or over skin grafts.

Silvadene – Used for partial/full thickness burns to help soften eschar. Typically spread as frosting a cake, ¼ - ½ inch in thickness. Do not use on the face. May be contraindicated in patients with hypersensitivity, pregnant women and patient with hepatic or renal failure. Silvadene can cause aplastic anemia, thrombocytopenia and leukopenia.

Santyl Collagenase– An enzymatic debriding agent used for deep partial thickness burns, small full-thickness burns or wounds with a fibrinous exudate. Must be applied nickel thick and covered with a secondary dressing, such as xeroform, to keep moist. Not to be used with silver products as it de-activates the enzymes.

Safe-Gel (Alginate) – Hydrating dermal wound ointment. Commonly used over exposed tendons.

Sulfamylon (5% Mafenide) Cream – Used on Cartilage for deeper penetration, such as nose and ears.

Sulfamylon 5% Solution - Can be utilized pre or post grafting to reduce bacterial load and maintain a moist environment.

Vashe – Antimicrobial solution used to moisten and cleanse burn wounds or over skin graft dressings. Effective against pseudomonas and fungus. Non-damaging to healthy skin cells.