USE OF SUPRATHEL® FOR PARTIAL THICKNESS BURNS IN CHILDREN AND ADULTS (124)

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**Question:** We evaluated the use of Suprathel(®), a synthetic skin substitute, for partial thickness burns in children and adults. 60 patients with burns were treated with Suprathel(®). The burns were superficial partial thickness, mid-dermal or deep dermal; the median %TBSA was 15%.

**Methods:** Suprathel(®) was applied after debridement, followed by Vaseline gauze, dry gauze and semielastic bandages. The outer dressings were changed every 2-3 days unless clinical problems dictated otherwise.

**Results:** Median healing time was 16 days (range 9-38 days). 15 patients took longer than 21 days to heal, of whom 3 developed hypertrophic scarring. Healing time of superficial partial thickness and mid-dermal burns was not significantly different. Deep-dermal burns took significantly longer.

**Conclusion:** Suprathel(®) represents a solid, reliable epidermal skin substitute for the treatment of partial thickness burns in children. The majority of burns in children are mixed depth, and Suprathel(®) has the advantage that it may also be used to treat mid-dermal to deep-dermal burns. Furthermore, Suprathel(®) has become a useful tool in treatment portfolio for adult and paediatric patients suffering from burns. Especially in patients with extensive burns, Suprathel(®) can be used to cover the deep dermal burn wounds to save STSGs and its donor sites for the coverage of full-thickness burned areas.