THE USE OF SOFT SILICONE DRESSINGS FOR SKIN GRAFT FIXATION. (P120)

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Introduction: For a long time health professionals that work with advanced wound care have been looking for dressings that promoted less trauma when removed, maintain the local moist, reduce the risk of maceration; leave minimal residues and also could be kept for 7 days or more. This way the number of changes would be considerably reduced, too. When skin graft fixation is concerned staples or stiches are the usual options. Nowadays, nevertheless, after the knowledge of the silicone dressings, there are other good options if used properly.

Objective: Perform a study for skin graft fixation with the use of the silicone dressings, considering the degree of pain, the graft integration and the ease of handling.

Method: 12 patients, 4 female and 8 male, ages from 18 to 75 years old, submitted to a partial deep skin graft (0.12mm) for the lower limb, upper limb and trunk. The total area varying from 15 cm² up to up to 30 cm². The secondary dressing was usual gauze. The area was evaluated at day 7 and day 14. The changes of the primary dressing were made only if needed. The others were kept till 14 days. We used the visual pain scale at the removal dressing day. The follow up of were till day 21.

Results: 100% of the cases presented over 95% of the skin graft integration and we found pain level 2 in 2% of the patients at the removal of the dressing. The changes, when needed (4 cases) were very easy to handle.

Conclusions: The silicone dressing for skin graft fixation is almost painless, It does not seem to affect the skin graft integration and there is no need to remove the staples or the stitches like we used to do before. It is easy to handle and we consider this a good alternative.

References