Tissue Viability bulletin

December 2025

The aim of this current awareness bulletin is to provide a digest of recent articles and guidelines on Tissue Viability

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Articles

Use of electrical stimulation therapy to reduce pain associated with hard-to-heal wounds and reduce reliance on pharmacological analgesics: a case series
To assess the effect of microcurrent electrical stimulation therapy (EST) on pain from hard-to-heal wounds and quantity/type of analgesic needed in its management.
Journal of Wound Care 34 (11) 932-940

Effect on bacterial load of a DACC-coated dressing as a wound contact layer in negative pressure wound therapy
Dialkylcarbamoyl chloride (DACC)-coated dressing is a hydrophobic material that absorbs exudate and binds the bacteria within it to the dressing. This property has led to the use of DACC-coated dressings for a wide range of wounds. However, the bacterial load binding capacity in this dressing used with negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) has not been evaluated, to the best of the authors' knowledge. The aim of this study was to examine bacterial loads at the wound surface in the use of NPWT with a DACC-coated dressing as a wound contact layer
Journal of Wound Care 34 (11) 952-956

The impact of ageing and frailty on wound healing
As the global population ages, the prevalence of complex wounds and delayed healing is becoming a significant concern. Ageing leads to physiological changes such as reduced skin elasticity, weakened immune responses and slower cellular regeneration, all of which delay wound healing. Frailty, marked by reduced physiological reserves and heightened vulnerability to stressors, worsens these issues. Together, ageing and frailty increase the risk of tissue breakdown, infection rates, prolonged healing times and rising

healthcare costs. This article examines the relationship between ageing, frailty, increased risk of wounds and wound healing, drawing on recent research to highlight key challenges.
Chalk Fiona et al
British Journal of Nursing 34 (20) S27-S34

Photothermally-activated nano-delivery system for on-demand treatment of diabetic wound infections
Bacterial-infected diabetic wounds, characterized by a persistent hyperglycemic environment, susceptibility to secondary bacterial infections, and chronic inflammatory responses, often exhibit impaired healing processes, posing a significant challenge in clinical management. To address this issue, this study designed and constructed a near-infrared (NIR) light-activated intelligent hydrogel drug delivery system—LSZBP@CMO. This system integrates highly efficient photothermal conversion components with a pH-responsive CMO hydrogel based on Schiff base reactions, achieving a dual-stimuli responsive drug release mechanism governed by exogenous NIR light and endogenous microenvironmental acidity. Under NIR irradiation, localized mild hyperthermia is generated, leading to the disruption of thermosensitive structures within the system and exposure of nanoparticles. This process, synergizing with the mildly acidic environment, further triggers rapid drug release, significantly enhancing antibacterial efficacy.
Huang R et al
International Journal of Pharmaceutics: X 11 (2026) 100464

Virtual wound care in Australian Nursing Homes: protocol for a pilot and feasibility study
Chronic wounds, those which have not healed in a timely manner, are a significant health and economic burden. Older people, especially those living in nursing homes, are disproportionately affected by chronic wounds, and effective management and prevention is a persistent challenge. Specialized wound care can improve outcomes; however, access is limited by aged care workforce shortages, fragmented care, and lack of local services, especially in rural and nursing home settings. Virtual wound care interventions such as WoundView (Coviu Global Pty Ltd), a novel computer vision–based artificial intelligence wound analysis app embedded in Coviu's existing telehealth platform, offer a potential solution to enhance engagement with specialized wound care services.
Russell H et al
JMIR Research Protocols 14 (Dec) e79652

Cutimed Sorbion Sachet S and relevant foam dressings for venous let ulcers: a cost comparison in the UK and Austria
Venous leg ulcers are chronic wounds that can affect patients' quality of life considerably. Effective exudate management can positively impact quality of life and reduce the economic and human burden of venous leg ulcers. Therefore, access to suitable wound dressings can save time and reduce healthcare costs. This article compares a hydration response technology dressing – Cutimed Sorbion Sachet S – with commonly used foam dressings, focusing on potential reductions in costs and time spent on dressing changes in the UK and Austria.
Walzer S et al
British Journal of Healthcare Management 31 (12) 1-14

Application of telemedicine in home healthcare for patients with diabetic foot ulcers: a randomised controlled study
Objective: To evaluate the effectiveness of telemedicine in home healthcare for patients with diabetic foot ulcers (DFUs) on wound healing time, wound score and patient self-management

Hai-Ping Y et al
Journal of Wound Care 34 (12) 1013-1022

Choosing the right would dressing in community nursing

Wound care is estimated to cost £8.3 billion annually and takes up to 50% of community nurse time. Thorough wound assessments followed by selecting the best wound dressing for the patient, taking into consideration wound severity (acute or chronic), depth, location, treatment duration and ease of application will help to improve wound healing rates and patient quality of life while saving on healthcare resources. This article discusses synthetic dressings, which make up most modern dressings, and include moist, absorbent, and non-adherent dressings that are further broken down into different products. This article explores the mode of action of each dressing, their recommended indications, and summarises their strengths and limitations for ease of reference. Healthcare professionals should continue to keep up to date with the current research and guidelines in order to provide care that optimises wound healing.

Maloumi S
British Journal of Community Nursing 30 (Supp 12) S32-S34