Multi-Center Evaluation of an Advanced Extracellular Matrix Technology for the Management of Chronic Wounds – A Canadian Experience

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INTRODUCTION

Advanced Extracellular Matrix (ECM) technologies for wound care are known to act on all phases of wound healing, by providing a provisional scaffold to stabilize the wound bed, modulate wound proteases and rebuild damaged tissue. This study aimed to clinically evaluate an ECM technology for the management of chronic wounds across different Canadian care settings.

METHODS

Wound management was undertaken across various care settings, including inpatient, out-patient and home health. All wounds were managed with best practice, including debridement, maintenance of a moist wound environment and appropriate compression and off-loading as standard of care. At some point of care wounds were managed with an ECM, applied daily – 7 days (mostly once or twice a week) to the wound bed. Wounds were visually inspected, imaged and measured over the course of management with ECM.

RESULTS

A total of 33 wounds (n=30; participants aged 18-98 years) were enrolled in the study with different types of wounds: DFU’s (10), PUs (9), skin tear (1), plantar corn (2), necrotic fascia (1), venous leg ulcers (6), delayed surgical (6) and donor site (1). Most wounds showed improved healing rates as decreased frequency of dressing changes when managed with ECM compared to standard of care. Times to wound closure was in average 35 days (from 7 to 65 days). The ECM technology was easy to apply to wounds and once hydrated in the wound bed the ECM conformed to the wound bed and could be cut and packed as required by the specific wound. No adverse events observed.

Conclusion

This represents a Canadian evaluation of ECM for the management of wounds. As previously described for this product, improvements to the granulation tissue were observed, and otherwise stated chronic wounds began to resolve [1, 2]. The availability of this advanced technology to Canadian wound specialists provides another tool for the management of these complex pathologies.

REFERENCES AND DISCLOSURES

Product was provided by Ares BioScience Limited (New Zealand); [Natural Dermal Template Ares BioScience Limited, New Zealand.]