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) technology for wound care is 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. 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 (participants aged 18-96 years) were enrolled in the study with different types of wounds: VLU (6), DFU (8), PTA (8), surgical (6), traumatic (4), other (4). Most wounds showed improved healing rates, with 73% of wounds closed by 12 weeks, and average size % reduction at 4 weeks of 58% (range 4-100%). Responders (wound size reduction at 4 weeks >50%) at 4 weeks was 62% (n=20/33). The ECM technology was easy to apply and once hydrated conformed to the wound bed and could be cut and packed as required by the specific wound. No adverse events observed. Three wounds were removed from evaluation due to unrelated infection and three patients were lost to follow up.

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 others noted clinical 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 Arcis Biologics Limited (New Zealand); Philips Dental Templatex (Arcis Biologics Limited, New Zealand); Hydrontra Blue (Hydrontra LLC).