

RESKIN ACADEMY

SCRATCH WOUND

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INTRODUCTION

Dementia is very often the cause of uncontrolled actions of the patient. Also, dementia quite frequently diminishes the sensation of being in the need to drink. As a consequence, older people drink not enough which lead to dry itching skin. Therefore, scratching wounds due to an itching skin very often occur among older people. Indeed, due to the dementia people start to scratch; even when wounds develop they continue scratching the irritated and wounded area. An adequate prevention action plan and treatment is necessary to avoid open lesions that easily can infect. Hydration and silicone dressings, used in prevention or during care of the wound can help the risk of developing further injury.

CASE REPORT

PATIENT SITUATION

An 84 year (° 4/11/1924) old woman has dementia (Alzheimer) with obsessive need to scratch. Partial renal failure and hypertension. The patient scores 10 on the scale of Norton. The patient is confused and has a severe mobility problem. The patient is incontinent for faeces and urine. The nutritional status is sufficient. The 5th of July a scratch wound is diagnosed at her right arm, on her right shoulder blade and neck region (Picture 1).



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4

USED TREATMENT AND RESULTS

On the 5th of July, scratch wounds are diagnosed on the right arm, the right shoulder blade and neck region. The largest scratch wound at the neck and shoulder blade measures 1cm by 1.5 cm (1,5 cm²) and is 1mm deep. The dermis is damaged. The wound is surrounded by multiple smaller wounds. On the right arm a smaller scratch wound (0,5cm²) is present.

Two RESKIN[®] silicone dressings – size large enough to cover the wounds – are applied; one in the neck region and one on the arm after cleansing, disinfecting and drying of the wounds and surrounding skin. The dressings remain on the wounds till July 13th. After removal of the dressing, it is clear that the smaller wound on the arm is healed; the skin looks intact (Picture 2). The wounds at the neck and shoulder blade still remains open (Picture 3).

The scratch lesions on the shoulder blade and the neck are moderate exuding. A new RESKIN[®] silicone dressing is applied once the wounds are cleansed, disinfected and dried. On July 20th, the major wound clearly has significantly diminished in size and measures 0,5 by 0,5cm with a depth of 1mm. The visible tissue is red granulating and dry. On the July 20th, July 27 th and August 3 th new dressing changes are done and the treatment is continued until full healing a few days later.

DISCUSSION

RESKIN[®] silicone dressings are very helpful to take care of scratch wounds and are easy to use / to apply. The adhesive of the dressing is sufficient to guarantee a perfect care of the wounds and cause no irritation. RESKIN[®] dressings used in prevention secure a healthy skin and avoid scratch injuries.

CONCLUSION

RESKIN[®] silicone dressing is an economic, easy to use and skin friendly dressing. The dressing supports wound healing and is an excellent choice to use as a preventive measure to avoid scratch injuries.