

HEARTLAND HERALD

Helpful News for Healthcare Providers

FALL 2013

SOUTHWEST TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

ISSUE ONE



*FROM KANSAS CITY TO THE
WORLD - SWT PROVIDES
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
TO MAKE PATIENTS' AND
CLINICIANS' LIVES BETTER*

SWT - A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

SWT offers excellent products, research and support for clinicians.

The Merriam Webster dictionary defines QUALITY as "a high level of value or excellence". Southwest Technologies, Inc. has a 30 year history of providing quality products and services to clinicians across the globe. The products offered by SWT (Elasto-Gel™, Gold Dust™, Stimulen™, Hot and Cold Therapy, and products for cushioning and padding) offer solutions for almost every wound etiology. Elasto-

Gel™, the only glycerine-based hydrogel, efficiently multi-tasks. Like most hydrogels, it lends moisture to dry

wounds but unlike other hydrogels it also absorbs 4 times its weight, helping in exudate management. It is highly conformable to all body shapes and provides relatively pain-free dressing changes. It facilitates autolytic debridement, is bacteriostatic and can be used as either a primary or secondary dressing. **As a dressing, it does it all.**

Gold Dust™ is another unique option for highly exudative wounds. It will absorb over 100 times its weight and has been shown to reduce pain in both venous stasis ulcers and pyoderma gangrenosum. It can be used under compression and protects the periwound tissue from maceration.

Stimulen™ is a hydrolyzed collagen. It is available in a variety of forms to allow you, the clinical expert, to choose which form is best for your patient.

Nectacare®, a Manuka honey/Glycerine combination will be released soon. It will allow the clinician to choose which form is best for your patient.

For over three decades,
SWT has offered
products that make the
world better -one patient
at a time

For over three decades and years to come, SWT is your partner for quality in wound care products.



southwest technologies inc.

Upcoming Events

WOCN Regional Fall Conferences

Most WOCN Regions will host conferences in the fall. Please check the website, www.wocn.org for events in your area

SAWC- Fall Sept 27- 29 Las Vegas, NV

Clinical Symposium for Advances in Skin & Wound Care October 24 - 27, 2013 Lake Buena Vista, Fla

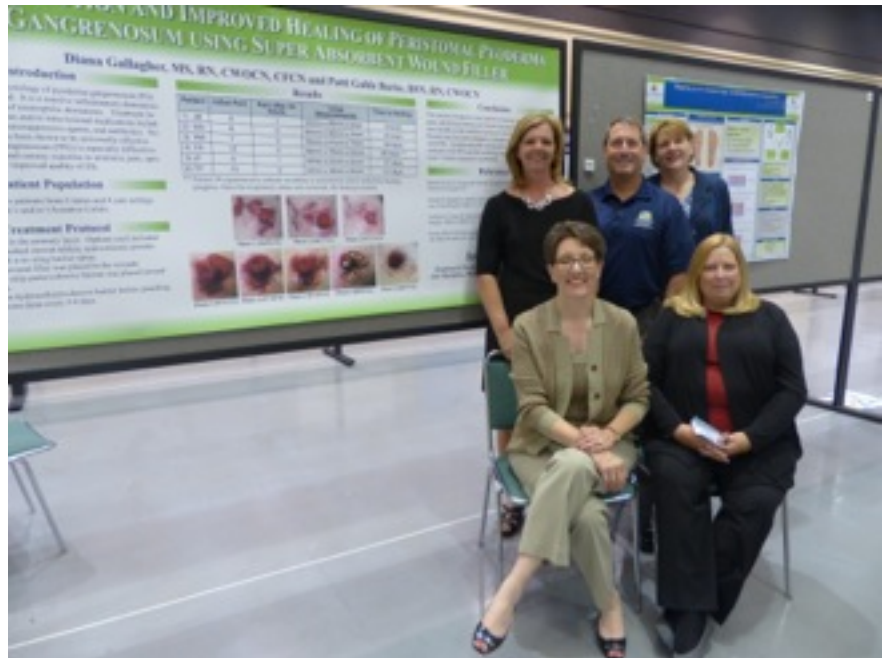
SAWC & WHS Spring April 24-27, 2014 Orlando Fla

7th annual Translational to Clinical (T2C) Wound Conference March 13-15, 2014, Ohio State University

Advancing Evidence-Based Practice for Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing, March 16- March 18, 2014, Branson Mo

WOCN- Nashville, Tennessee June 21-25, 2014

Poster at WOCN Sparks Interest about GoldDust™



The SWT team of Vicki Drexler, Robert Lange, and Kimbra Sabine join poster authors Patti Gable Burke and Diana Gallagher

Peristomal Pyoderma Gangrenosum

Peristomal Pyoderma Gangrenosum (PPG) is challenging. It's etiology and pathophysiology remain poorly understood. It is a reactive inflammatory dermatosis and part of the spectrum of neutrophilic dermatoses. Treatment options vary widely. No individual therapy has been universally effective. Prior to beginning this study, patients had been using steroids, alginates, Polymem WIC, and Hydrofera Blue without significant improvement. All entered the study without compensation. PG anywhere on the body is difficult, but when it is around a stoma, wound and ostomy expertise

are critical in achieving pain management, optimal wound healing and acceptable pouching intervals.

All patients had PPG secondary to Crohn's or Ulcerative Colitis. Wounds were cleaned gently and filled with Gold Dust that was mixed to a snowlike consistency with tap water. Six patients were recruited from 2 states and 4 care settings. All experienced a significant decrease in pain within 24 hours and improved healing. The GoldDust was held in place with a Brava Protective Sheet or an Eakin's pouch. Patients were able to return to routine ostomy changes and an improved quality of life. Additional research is warranted.

HOSPICE CORNER

The goal for wound care is not always focused on a cure. In hospice, the role is palliative. The focus is on improving the patient's quality of life and comfort. The dressings offered by SWT have a long history with hospice nurses. Although the initial appeal may have been the atraumatic dressing changes, hospice experts continue to call and write about their success with SWT's unique products. One nurse recently shared, "If these dressings can heal a wound on a dying patient, is there any wound that they can't heal?"

Hospice is challenging. Patients who have made the decision to move into a hospice setting are frequently dealing with uncertainty. They may be experiencing pain, fear, and sometimes odor and isolation. Everything that can be done to improve the quality of their days has value. Elasto-Gel™, a favorite of hospice nurses, provides comfort and cooling for all wound types PLUS padding and shear and friction reduction for fragile skin. For those wounds with excess exudate and odor, Gold Dust™ is the answer. By absorbing the excess exudate, odor and bacteria are managed. Patients are able to spend their time free of the embarrassing odors and confident that friends and family will be able to visit comfortably.

Hospice Nurses Lend Hope

FROM THE HEARTLAND TO THE WORLD

Many clinicians think they know Southwest Technologies, Inc. After all, the company is more than 30 years old; some products were available from other sources before that. They know Elasto-Gel™ and have used it successfully, but may have mistakenly dismissed SWT in favor of larger, big name companies. There is so much more to know about SWT.

Southwest Technologies makes all of its product in the USA but provides products worldwide. You can find SWT products across the globe. They work as well in the frozen north as the humid tropics. One of the big advantages of these products is their versatility. New and novel uses are always being reported as clinicians celebrate their successes. Because of their versatility; they are highly valuable. Breast pads made of Elasto-Gel™ are marketed under a number of names and help breast feeding moms manage painful, cracked nipples. Plastic surgeons in Rio De Janeiro have included the Elasto-Gel™ face masks as their post-op standard. Stimulen™, Gold Dust™, Elasto-Gel™ and now Nectacare® are important therapies for limb salvage and wound care. In addition to their active US market, these products are mainstays across the globe. Key markets include Trinidad & Tobago, Malaysia, Dubai, Central & South America, Tunisia, Qatar, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Italy, Norway, Portugal, S Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, and the list goes on.

LTC HEROES

HIPPA prevents us from sharing names but the story is one that has to be told. At Ashton Health and Rehabilitation in Barling, AR, residents receive loving, compassionate care. Wound care is provided by Tracy Holman, LPN. As a treatment nurse, Tracy has a tremendous interest in wound and skin care. When assessing one of her elderly residents, she noticed a small, but significant wound on a resident's lateral ankle. Bone was palpable but covered by a thin layer of tissue. Based on what she had learned, she realized that determining the correct etiology was critical. An Ankle Brachial Index was done and based on the very low score, the test was repeated. Sadly, the results were the same. This was clearly an arterial wound. To complicate matters the patient had multiple comorbidities that all impaired healing. To Tracy's credit, she consulted with other nurses to develop the best treatment plan. Goals were clarified with the patient's family. She was not a candidate for revascularization or aggressive

wound care. The daughter, an APN wanted to assure that her mother was comfortable and provided optimal wound care without debridement. Tracy initiated a treatment plan using Stimulen™ gel topped with Elasto-Gel™ to fill the wound base. A second larger piece of Elasto-Gel™ was used to cover and pad the wound and secured in place. Dressing changes were done every 72 hours. The patient had no complaint of pain with dressing changes or with the wounds when dressed with this combination. In less than three weeks, the wound was healed. Because the patient is so high risk, Tracy has continued a protective pad of Elasto-Gel™ over the ankle and continues to find new and innovative applications for this dressing with her long term care patients. Congratulations to Tracy and every nurse working in long term care. Thank you for the caring and compassion you selfishly give to our senior family members everyday.

Medical Honey - Cochrane Review or Common Sense

Nectacare® by SWT will be released soon

A recent Cochrane Review by Jull et al raised questions about the use of medical grade honey for wound care. Honey has been used since ancient times for healing. Studies have shown that honey aids in wound debridement and accelerates the overall rate of wound healing. In addition, honey has recently been reported to have bacteriostatic properties.

Modern honey products include Manuka Honey from New Zealand and are available from a number of manufacturers. Since its introduction to wound care, it has gained favor. When this most recent Cochrane Review was released, it raised issues for clinicians who

had experienced good results with Manuka based products. Clinicians everywhere are striving to provide evidenced-based practice, EBP, to their patients. EBP is the blend of the best research blended with clinical expertise and customized for an individual patient.

In a recent webinar, Dr. Janice Beitz and Dr. Laura Bolton, reviewed the Cochrane Review by Jull, et al. Although they commended the authors for taking on such a large project, there were concerns on the interpretation of individual studies and the inclusion of practice recommendation.

When research tells us something questionable, it is time to seek more research and not lose our grasp on common sense.



*Common sense is GENIUS
dressed in its working clothes*

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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