

A Multi-Centred Cohort Evaluation Of A Chitosan Gelling Fibre Dressing

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Introduction

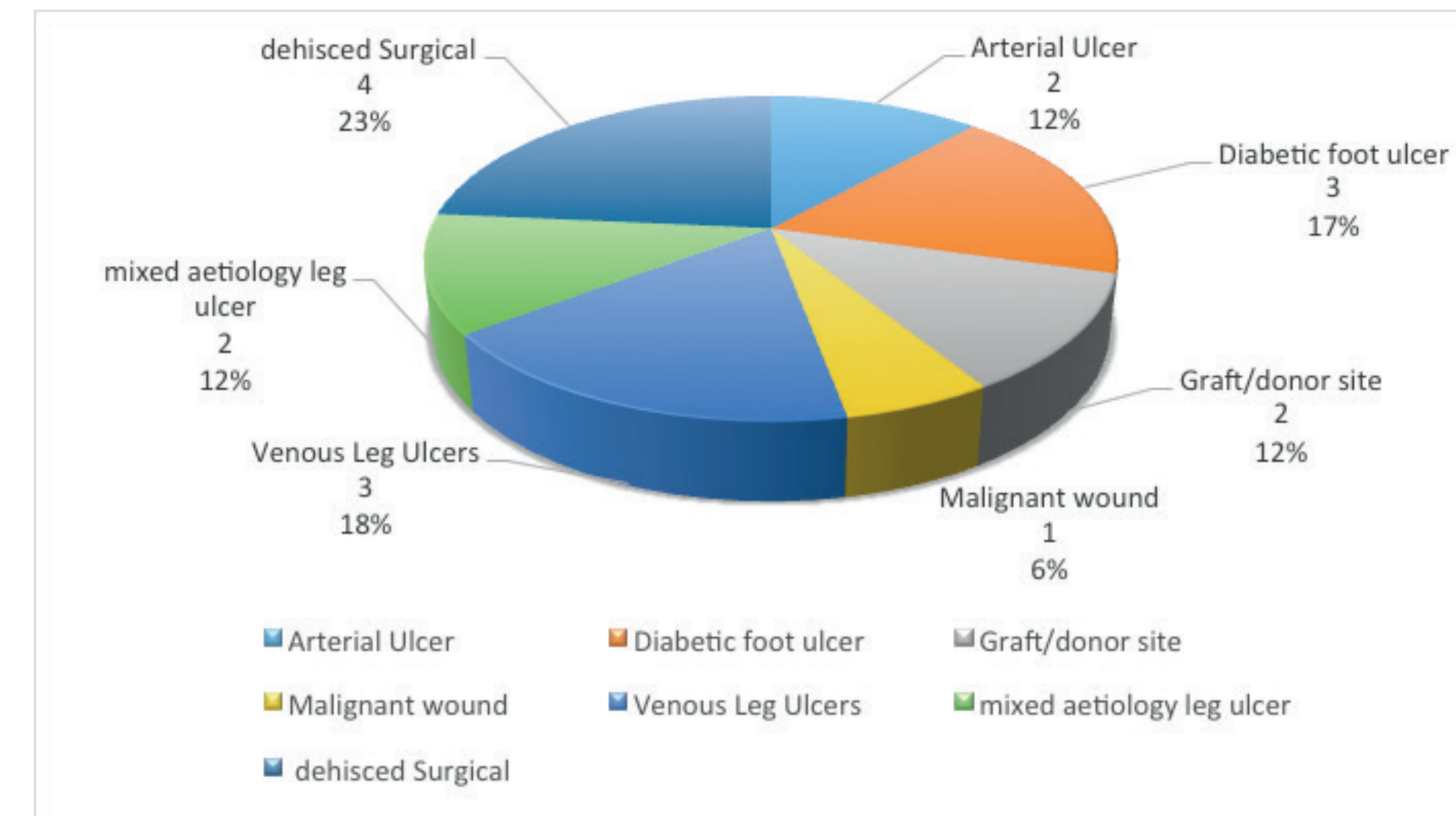
The Department of Health (2009) have proposed that with the introduction of more advanced wound care products, complex wound care should take place in the community setting, thereby enabling patients who might otherwise have been hospitalised to be treated in their own homes. This new advanced dressing has the ability to gel when in contact with wound fluid, making it less painful to remove, manage high to moderate exudate, reduce bioburden and maintain haemostasis. This offers a combination of properties that commonly have to be addressed when managing chronic wounds. Challenges of this study

Methodology

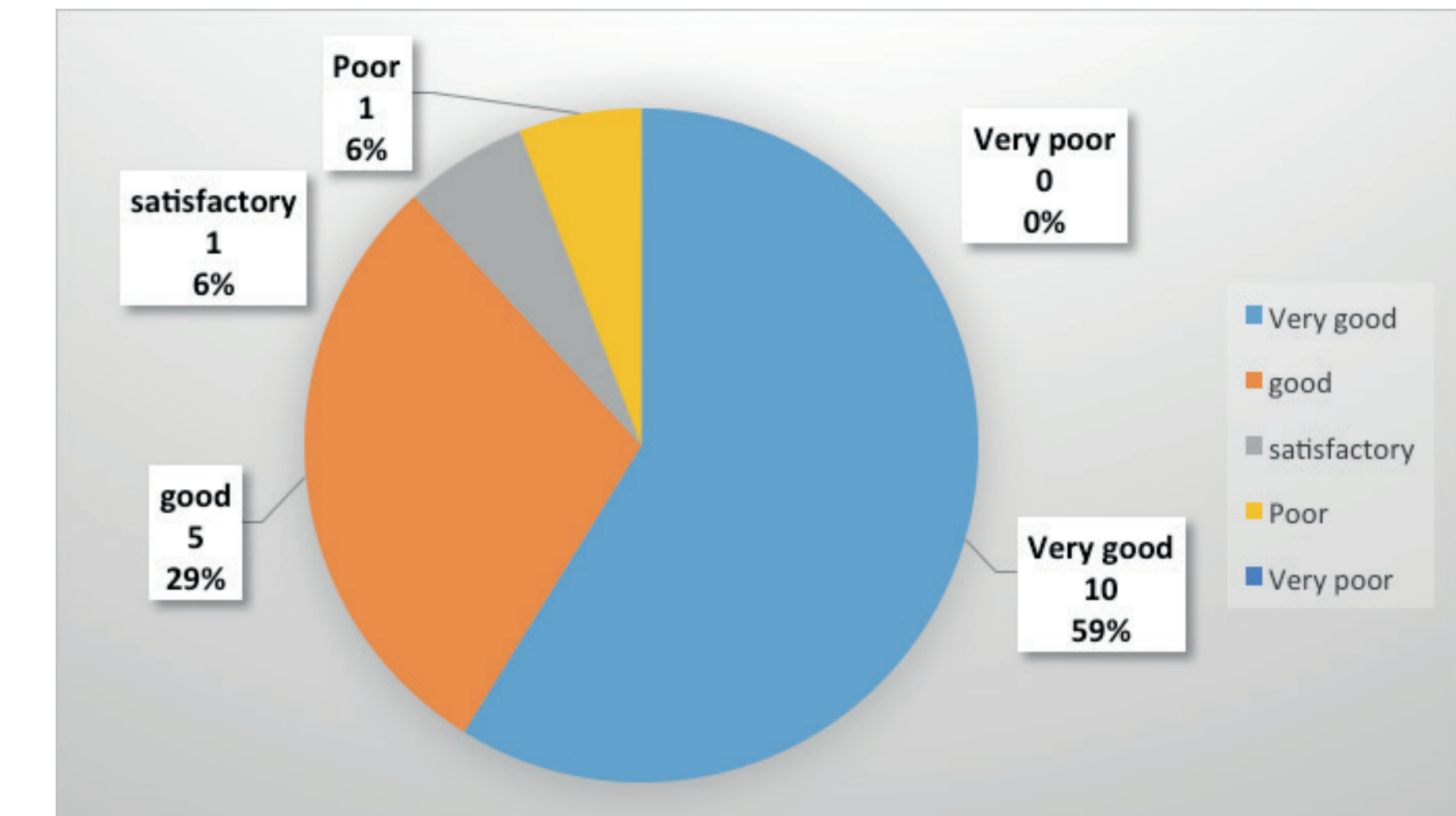
All patients gave written and informed consent according the partnership trust guidelines. Evaluation forms were formulated in partnership with lead clinician along with the training programme for community staff. Dressings were supplied throughout by Aspen Medical.

The following data was collated:

- Gender
- Age
- Underlying diseases that impacted on normal wound healing
- Improved healing outcomes
- Provide haemostasis in bleeding friable tissue
- Manage high to moderate wound exudate
- Reduce bioburden
- Remove devitalised tissue:- sloughy necrotic tissue
- Be acceptable for palliative care (fungating wounds)
- Dressing wear times
- Overall dressing performance Quality of Life
- Easy to apply and remove
- Reduction in Leaking and strikethrough
- Reduction in malodour
- Pain dressing change and removal.



Wound Types



Overall rating

Results

A total of 18 patients were recruited into the study 13 (72%) female, 5 (28%) mean age 60.7. wound types listed in this evaluation 39% (7) leg ulcers, 22% (4), surgical wounds, 11% (2) diabetic foot ulcers, 11% (2) graft donor sites and 1(6%) fungating wound, 1(6%). pilonidal sinus. Dressing wear time varied between 1- 6 days. The speed of wound improvement in both wound size reduction, and healthy granulation, reduction in malodour, combined with effective exudate management made a real difference to the patient's Quality of life. 65% (11) went on to heal completely. The majority of patients had wounds in excess of 12 weeks +, on entry to this evaluation.

Discussion

It was interesting to note that the majority of patients in this evaluation 9 (50% received wound care at the Fenton Community clinic, 6 (33%) in their own home, 2 (11%) diabetic centre and 1 (6%) in a nursing home The early finding in this study are encouraging. The application of Kytocel® as a primary dressing appears to have met and in some patients exceeded the aims of the evaluation.

Conclusion

The community tissue viability team strive to improve patient outcomes and reduce costs, the collaborative working with industry enables a number of DOH Drivers to be addressed. (QUIP Agenda Doc) .Awareness of new products, supported by a highly skilled team of dedicated staff continue to improve outcomes in this small but valuable sample of patients.

References:

Department of Health (2009) Transforming Community Services: Ambition, Action, Achievement. Transforming services for acute care closer to home. Available online at: http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_102198.pdf