ERF - Primary Dressing Selection Guide



For secondary dressings please see the 'Choosing an Appropriate Wound Exudate Management Dressing chart'

Necrotic Soft / Hard

Rehydrate & promote debridement

Low Exudate

High Exudate

MediHoney Apinate*

Moderate Exudate

- ActivHeal Hydrogel
- Prontosan Wound Gel X*
- Flaminal Hydro*

MediHoney Apinate*

Sloughy



Promote autolytic debridement

- ActivHeal Hydrogel
- DuoDerm ExtraThin
- L-Mesitran Honey ointment*
- Aquacel Extra
- MediHoney Apinate*
- Aquacel Extra
- MediHoney Apinate*

Granulating



Protect and encourage move to epithelialisation

- DuoDerm ExtraThin
- Kliniderm Foam Silicone Lite
- Kliniderm Foam Silicone
- Biatain Silicone Foam
- Mepilex Border Comfort Foam

Epithelialising



Protect and promote

- Lomatuell Pro
- DuoDerm ExtraThin
- Kliniderm Foam Silicone Lite
- · If moderate exudate present consider infection or other holistic factors
- If high exudate present consider infection or other holistic factors

Aquacel Ag Extra +

Infected



Manage infection and reduce bacterial load

- Flaminal Hydro
- L-Mesitran Honey **Ointment**
- Flaminal Forte
- MediHoney Apinate lodosorb/lodoflex
- Silvercell

Cavity



Promote healing by secondary intention

- Requires a dressing to conform to the wound bed and not create a gap that allows exudate to build up
- · Consider loose packing with aquacel or hydrogel / flaminals
- Consider referral to TVN / other specialist services for negative pressure wound therapy if suitable

Over / Hyper-granulating



Dampen down tissue overgrowth Consider cause: Friction, Occlusion, Infection / Biofilm?

- Exert pressure on tissue with double layer of non-adhesive foam
- · Secure foam with tape or bandage
- Consider steroid ointment daily for 1-2 weeks if not resolving

Malignant / Fungating



Management of symptoms

Manage the complex symptoms

Refer to the Forth Valley M:EMPHIS pathway and use in conjunction with the East Region Wound Formulary to select appropriate dressings

* Note this is an antimicrobial dressing, use for 14 days then reassess

Devised by Tissue Viability. Oct 23. Review date Oct 2026