

⊕ Evidence in focus

Publication summary: Beeckman D, et al. Br J Dermatol (2020)*

Smith+Nephew

Addition of ALLEVYN® LIFE Foam Dressing or Mepilex™ Border Dressing to standard care helped to significantly reduce the incidence of hospital-acquired pressure injuries (HAPIs) compared with standard care alone

⊕ Plus points

 **36%**
relative reduction in overall incidence of HAPIs with foam dressings plus standard care versus standard care alone ($p=0.04$)

 **41%**
relative reduction in risk of developing sacral HAPIs with foam dressings plus standard care versus standard care alone ($p=0.04$)

 **No statistically significant difference** in effectiveness between ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing and Mepilex™ Border Dressing (exploratory analysis)

Overview

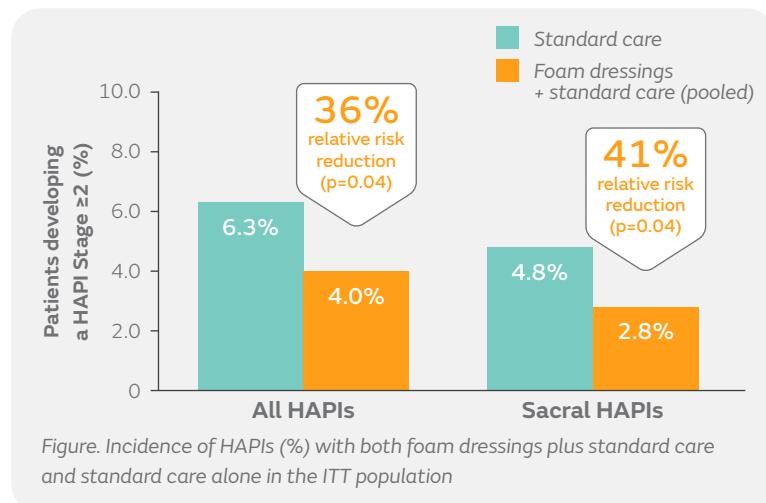
- Independent, pragmatic, randomised controlled open-label trial conducted at eight Belgian hospitals, to assess whether multilayer silicone foam dressings can help prevent HAPIs
- Patients were at risk of developing a HAPI (Braden score <17), admitted to hospital <48 hours previously and treated on intensive care units (ICU) and non-ICU wards
- The pooled experimental group received ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing on both hips, ALLEVYN LIFE Heel on both heels and ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum (n=545) or Mepilex™ Border Dressing on both hips,

Mepilex™ Border Heel on both heels and Mepilex™ Border Sacrum (n=542), both in addition to standard care

- Dressings applied and changed for up to 14 days according to manufacturer's instructions
- The control group received standard care alone (n=546); which was risk, daily skin and nutritional assessments, tailored repositioning, heel offloading and skin care
- The intention-to-treat (ITT) population included 1,605 patients

Results

- Across hospital wards, compared with standard care alone, the addition of foam dressings resulted in:
 - A 36% significant relative risk reduction in HAPI incidence stage ≥ 2 ($p=0.04$; Figure); number needed to treat, 43
 - A 41% significant relative risk reduction in sacral HAPIs ($p=0.04$; Figure)
 - A 24% non-significant relative risk reduction in heel HAPIs (1.4 vs 1.9% $p=0.49$)
 - Only one patient developed a HAPI at the hip in the experimental group
- Exploratory data analysis did not demonstrate statistically significant differences in effectiveness between ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing and Mepilex™ Border Dressing



Conclusions

Addition of ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing or Mepilex™ Border Dressing to standard care significantly reduced the incidence of HAPIs (stage ≥ 2) in at-risk patients across hospital wards compared with standard care alone. No statistically significant difference in clinical effectiveness was observed between the two foam dressings.

Citation

*Beeckman D, Fourie A, Raepsaet C, et al. Silicone adhesive multilayer foam dressings as adjuvant prophylactic therapy to prevent hospital-acquired pressure ulcers: a pragmatic non-commercial multi-centre randomised open label parallel group medical device trial. Br J Dermatol. 2020 Nov 20;[Epub ahead of print].

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