

## Addition of ALLEVYN<sup>®</sup> LIFE Foam Dressing to standard preventative care significantly reduced the incidence of sacral pressure injuries (PIs) in at-risk patients on medical and surgical units

Forni C, Gazineo D, Allegrini E, et al. Effectiveness of a multi-layer silicone-adhesive polyurethane foam dressing as prevention for sacral pressure ulcers in at-risk in-patients: randomized controlled trial. *IJNS*. 2022;127:104172.

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### Key points

With addition of ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing to standard preventative care compared with standard preventative care alone:

**62.3%** 

significant relative risk reduction in PI incidence in all evaluated units (4.8 vs 12.8%;  $p=0.001$ )



**Significant relative risk reductions** in PI incidence in medical and surgical units (72.2% and 61.4%, respectively;  $p=0.01$ )

**11** 

**Number needed to treat to benefit** in medical and surgical units

### Overview

- An open-label, parallel group, multicentre, randomized controlled trial conducted in 22 medical, surgical and intensive care units at 12 hospitals in Italy
- ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing plus standard preventative care ( $n=351$ ) was compared with standard preventative care alone ( $n=358$ ) in patients at risk of sacral PIs (Braden Scale Score  $\leq 16$ )
- Standard preventive care included PI risk assessment, skin assessment three times per day, routine positioning every 4 hours, use of active support surface as appropriate and incontinence skin care
- Primary outcome: incidence of sacral PIs within 7 days of admission
- Secondary outcomes at 7 days: incidence of all sacral PIs stage  $\geq$  II; days to PI development; skin adverse events; number of dressings used per patient; number of patients withdrawing due to dressing discomfort
- In both groups, mean age was 78 years and mean Braden Scale Score at admission was 13.2

### Results

- With addition of ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing to standard preventative care compared with standard preventative care alone, respectively, the numbers of sacral PIs were:
  - Overall, 17 of 351 patients and 46 of 358 patients ( $p<0.001$ ; Figure)
  - In intensive care units, 5 of 96 and 10 of 96 patients ( $p=ns$ )
  - In medical units, 4 of 113 and 15 of 118 patients ( $p=0.01$ )
  - In surgical units, 8 of 142 and 21 of 144 patients ( $p=0.01$ )
- Overall, number needed to treat to benefit was 12; in the medical and surgical units it was 11 and 19 for intensive care
- Respective incidences of sacral PIs stage  $\geq$  II were 2.9% (10/351 patients) and 4.2% (15/358 patients) with ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing plus standard preventative care versus preventative care alone ( $p=ns$ ); no stage III or IV PIs occurred
- The protective effect of adding ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing to standard preventative care was evident in the first few days and was maintained over 7 days (Kaplan-Meier analysis)
- Mean number of dressings used per patient was 1.7 over 7 days
- No adverse skin reactions or discomfort attributable to ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing were reported

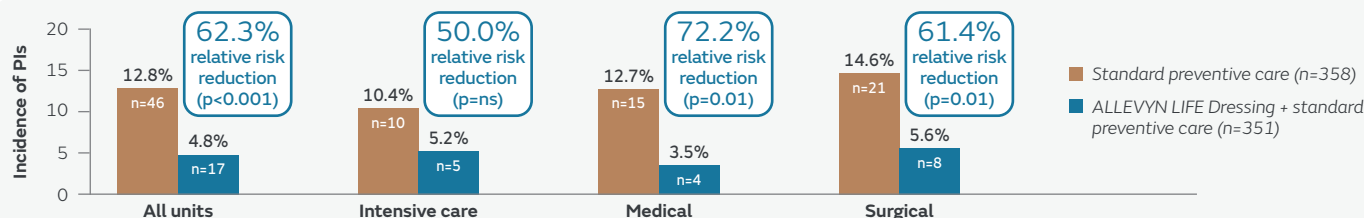


Figure. Incidences of PIs with ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing + standard preventative care and preventative care alone across hospital units

### Conclusions

Use of ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing in addition to standard preventative care significantly reduced the incidence of sacral PIs in at-risk patients on the medical and surgical units compared with standard preventative care alone.