# Evidence in focus

**Publication summary** 

# **Smith** Nephew

Teach, try, talk (T3) educational programme: evaluation of an infection management (IM) pathway improves IM and resolves signs and symptoms of over 90% of infections using ACTICOAT<sup>o</sup> Antimicrobial Barrier Dressing or IODOSORB<sup>o</sup> Cadexomer Iodine Dressing

Woo K, Coca P, Moura A, Woodmansey E, Styche T, Polignano R. Improving wound infection management: education and evaluation of an infection management pathway. J Wound Care. 2024;33(5):290–296.

Available at: Journal of Wound Care

### **Key points**

Results of the T3 IM educational programme showed that:



### T3 programme

T3 is a remote educational programme designed to meet the needs of healthcare professionals (HCPs). During COVID-19, in-person healthcare training became impractical, accelerating the shift to virtual learning. This highlighted the potential benefits of online programs including T3, as alternatives to traditional education.



#### Overview

- The purpose of the T3 programme was to evaluate the impact of an infection management pathway and the recommended dressings used by HCPs whilst managing hard-to-heal wounds
  - Secondary objective of the programme was to demonstrate the effectiveness of T3 as an appropriate method of training delivery for HCPs
- T3 programme was conducted in Italy, Portugal, and Spain between March 2021 to March 2022
  - Teach: Delivery of a consistent and evidence-based education via a virtual 2-hour seminar to HCPs
  - Try: Participants identified patients in their current caseload and implemented the IM pathway
  - Talk: HCPs reconvened after 4-6 weeks to provide feedback and receive results of the group survey
- The IM pathway and T3 learnings were implemented in 259 patients during the evaluation period
  - All patients were treated according to the IM pathway, using either nanocrystalline silver (ACTICOAT Dressing) or cadexomer iodine (IODOSORB Dressing)
  - Patients were managed in various settings including nursing home (37.1%), hospital (26.3%), own home (16.6%), outpatient (13.9%), and wound clinic or healthcare centre (5.0%)
  - Over half of patients had previously received antimicrobials (53.7%): for <2 weeks (21.5%), 2-4 weeks (40.7%), and >6 months (11.1%)

# + Evidence in focus

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## **ACTICOAT<sup>o</sup> Dressing results**

- Signs and symptom of infection were resolved in 96.0% of patients treated with ACTICOAT Dressing
  - Over half (51.2%) were resolved within 2 weeks (Figure 4)
- For patients that had previously received long-term antimicrobials (>3 months), ACTICOAT Dressing resolved signs and symptoms of infection:
  - In 2 weeks (22.2%)
  - In 3 weeks (44.4%)
  - In 4 weeks (33.3%)
- Majority of HCPs agreed that ACTICOAT Dressing was rated 'good' or 'very good':
  - Easy to apply (97.6%)
  - Easy to remove (95.1%)
  - Patient comfort (93.4%)



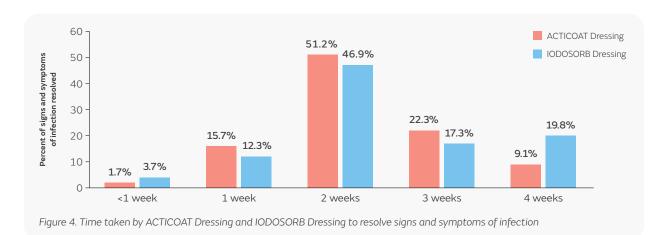
Figure 2. ACTICOAT Dressing

## **IODOSORB** Dressing results

- Signs and symptom of infection were resolved in 91.0% of patients treated with IODOSORB Dressing
  - Majority (46.9%) were resolved within 2 weeks (Figure 4)
- For patients that had previously received long-term antimicrobials (>3 months), IODOSORB Dressing resolved signs and symptoms of infection:
  - In 2 weeks (62.5%)
  - In 3 weeks (12.5%)
  - In 4 weeks (25.0%)
- Majority of HCPs agreed that IODOSORB Dressing was rated 'good' or 'very good':
  - Easy to apply (65.6%)
  - Easy to remove (81.1%)
  - Patient comfort (81.6%)



Figure 3. IODOSORB Dressing



#### IM pathway results

- During the talk phase of the T3 programme, HCPs also shared their opinion on the IM pathway and the majority agreed that the IM pathway:
  - Improved decision-making regarding infection (94.9%)
  - Helped determine the correct antimicrobial product for a patient on the first attempt (91.4%)
  - Reduced the frequency of dressing changes (65.7%)
  - Improved confidence in infection management (97.3%)
- Majority of HCPs also agreed that they would use the IM pathway with more patients and would recommend it to colleagues (99.2%)

### **Conclusions**

The T3 educational programme proved to be an effective way of delivering a structured educational programme for infection management to healthcare professionals. Use of the infection management pathway by healthcare professionals in clinical practice resulted in over 90% of patients achieving resolution of the signs and symptoms of infection using ACTICOAT Dressing or IODOSORB Dressing.

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