

Use of ACTICOAT[®] FLEX 3 Antimicrobial Barrier Dressing as part of an infection management pathway helped to release nurse time, reduce dressing spend and improve outcomes in patients with infected wounds

+ Plus points

As part of an infection management pathway, use of ACTICOAT FLEX Dressing resulted in:

909 nurse hours released due to fewer absorbent dressing changes (versus previous year)

9.4% reduction in **total dressing spend** (£156,177 saving versus previous year; p=0.013)

Improved patient outcomes for wounds not healing with other silver dressings after switching to ACTICOAT FLEX Dressing

Overview

- Introduction of an infection management pathway at one UK Clinical Commissioning Group including use of ACTICOAT FLEX Dressing as first-line silver dressing for wounds with local or spreading infection
- Prescribing data were used to assess impact of the pathway by comparing changes between two financial years (2018/2019 and 2019/2020)
- The following endpoints were evaluated:
 - Usage of dressings and overall wound care spend
 - Estimated impact on nursing time (assumes 31min saved per absorbent dressing released)
 - Clinical outcomes based on physician and patient feedback

Results

- After introduction of the pathway, including use of ACTICOAT FLEX Dressing, compared with the previous year:
 - Use of silver dressings was significantly reduced by 14% (from 2,792 to 2,410 dressings; p=0.041)
 - Absorbent dressing use was significantly reduced by 9% (from 19,654 to 17,894 dressings; p=0.019) resulting in the release of an estimated 909 nurse hours
 - Use of other antimicrobials was reduced by 21%
- Total dressing spend was significantly reduced by £156,177 versus the previous year (9.4%; p=0.013; Figure)
 - Spend on silver dressings decreased by 1.5%
- Compared with the previous year, clinicians noted that use of ACTICOAT FLEX Dressing as part of the pathway resulted in:
 - A decreased incidence of moderately and heavily exuding infected wounds
 - Reductions in wound odour
 - Improved patient outcomes (including wounds not improving using other silver dressings)

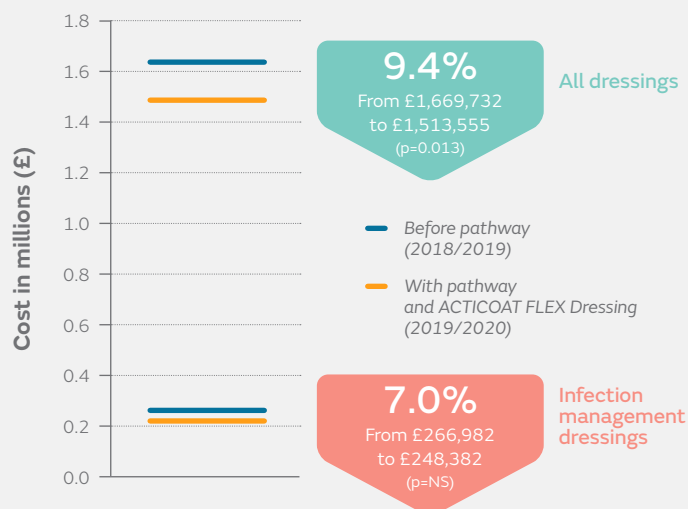


Figure. Total costs for all dressings and infection management dressings in 2018/2019 and 2019/2020

Conclusions

Using ACTICOAT FLEX Dressing as part of an infection management pathway helped to release nurse time and significantly reduce both total dressing and silver dressing spend compared with the previous year, as well as improve outcomes in patients with infected wounds.

Citation

*Hartill D, Styche T. Impact of the introduction of a nanocrystalline silver dressing for wound infection across a clinical commissioning group in the UK. Poster presented at Wounds UK Annual Conference 2020 Virtual. 9–11 November 2020; Harrogate, UK.

For detailed product information, including indications for use, contraindications, precautions and warnings, please consult the product's applicable Instructions for Use (IFU) prior to use.