

Use of ALLEVYN[®] GENTLE BORDER Foam Dressing in addition to standard preventive care helps to reduce the incidence of pressure injuries (PIs) in critically ill patients admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU)

ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressing also helped to reduce the incidence of impaired skin integrity versus standard preventive care alone



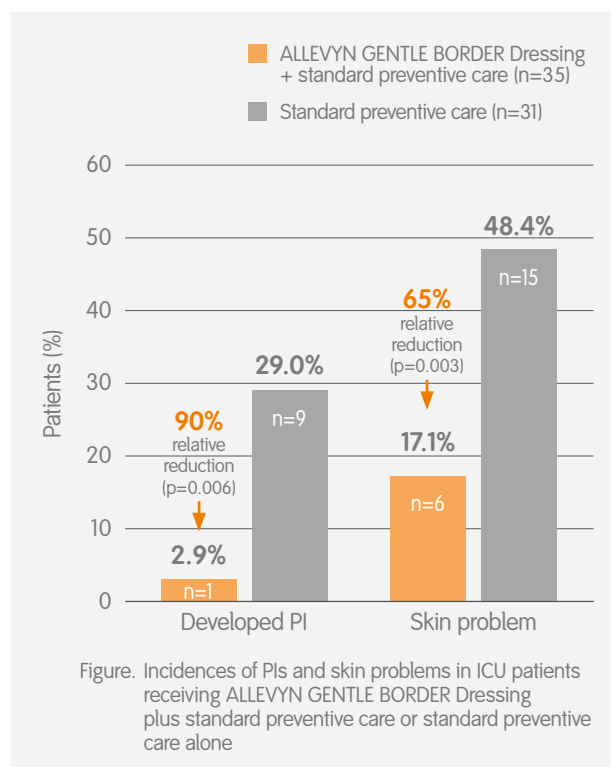
Study overview

- A randomised, controlled study to evaluate if prophylactic use of ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressing can help to reduce PIs and the incidence of impaired skin integrity in critically ill patients admitted to two ICUs in the Republic of Korea
- A total of 66 patients (mean age, 61 years) were allocated to receive standard preventive care alone (n=31) or with the addition of ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressing (n=35) applied to the sacral area while patients were in the ICU
- Skin inspections were performed daily by staff nurses and every 3 days by specialist nurses
- Subepidermal moisture (SEM) at the sacrum, buttocks and coccyx was assessed three times per site using a moisture metre; blanching erythema was assessed by visual inspection



Key results

- Compared with standard preventive care alone, ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressing plus standard preventive care had:
 - A lower incidence of stage 1 PIs (2.9 vs 29.0%; p=0.006; Figure)
 - A reduced incidence of impaired skin integrity (17.1 vs 48.4%; p=0.003; Figure)
 - A similar incidence of blanching erythema (5 vs 6 patients, respectively)
- In patients with PIs, changes in mean SEM values were significantly greater than those for patients without PIs (p<0.0001)
- At the end of the study, mean SEM values were significantly greater at sites where PIs and blanching erythema developed compared with sites of intact skin (p=0.0001 and p=0.0003, respectively)



Continued P2 >>

Evidence in focus (continued)



Conclusion

Use of ALLEVYN® GENTLE BORDER Dressing in addition to standard preventive care helped to significantly reduce the incidence of PIs and impaired skin integrity in the sacral area when compared to standard care alone in critically ill ICU patients.



Considerations

- Standard preventive care included position changes every two hours, skin cleansing and diaper changes after each event, use of air mattresses and regular skin inspections (every day by staff nurses; every three days by specialist nurses)
- This study was conducted over a short period in the ICU; a longer study would be required to confirm the results and to determine how SEM values vary over time as blanching erythema progresses to PIs
- Despite randomisation, patients receiving ALLEVYN GENTLE BORDER Dressing with standard preventive care had a lower Braden Scale score than those receiving standard preventive care alone (13.40 vs 15.29; p=0.002)



Study citation

*Lee YJ, Kim JY, Shin WY, Yeon YH. Use of prophylactic silicone adhesive dressings for maintaining skin integrity in intensive care unit patients: A randomised controlled trial. *Int Wound J.* 2019;16(Suppl 1):36-42.

Available at: [International Wound Journal](#)

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