

+ Think all foams are equal?

Smith+Nephew

A simple, evidence-based approach to better dressing

The reality of wound care

- Complex patients
- Multiple factors
- Decision fatigue

Better decisions require better understanding.

Identify what is delaying healing

- Exudate imbalance
- Bioburden
- Disruption from frequent dressing changes

Look beyond the wound surface.

How to select the right foam dressing^{1,2}



1. Assess patient
2. Identify barriers
3. Select based on capabilities
4. Support undisturbed healing

What to look for in a dressing



- Absorb and retain
- Stay in place
- Defend against shear
- Protect environment
- Extended wear time

Think capabilities, not categories.

Apply in practice



- Use clinical guide lines
- Identify risk early
- Combine with:
 - repositioning
 - offloading
 - assessment

Decisions form a system - not made in isolation.

Why it matters



1. Better healing
2. Fewer dressing changes
3. Improved patient experience
4. More efficient care

Next time you reach for a foam dressing:



1. What does this wound need?
2. What are the barriers to healing?
3. Does this dressing deliver?



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Foam Dressing

References. 1. Moore Z, Dowsett C, Smith G, Atkin L, Bain M, Lahmann NA, Schultz GS, Swanson T, Vowden P, Weir D, Zmuda A, Jaimes H. T.I.M.E. CDST: an updated tool to address the current challenges in wound care. *J Wound Care*. 2019 Mar 3;28(3):154–161. doi: 10.12968/jowc.2019.28.3.154. PMID: 30840549. 2. Moore Z, Kapp S, Loney A, Sandoz H, Probst S, Ryan H, Milne C, Meaume S (2021) A tool to promote patient and informal carer involvement for shared wound care. *Wounds International* 12(3):86–92.