

Addition of ALLEVYN[®] 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.

Available at: [International Journal of Nursing Studies](#)

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 ≤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 ≥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 ≥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

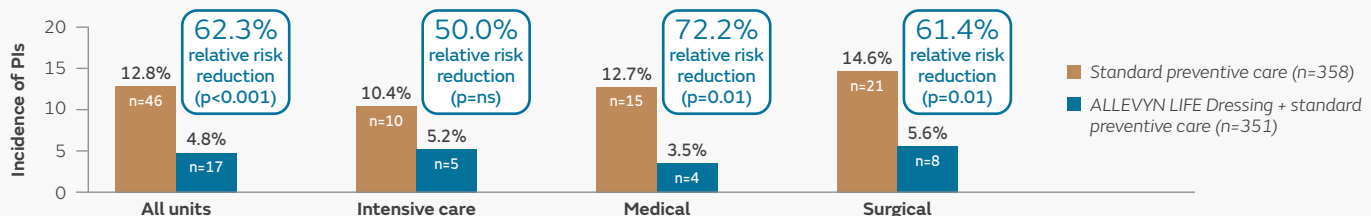


Figure. Incidences of PIs with ALLEVYN LIFE Dressing + standard preventative care and preventative care alone across hospital units

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.

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.