



Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations

Convention ID: 617

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Passion Makes Possible in Wound Care --- Case Report

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Keywords:

wound care

Introduction

To extend the pilot programme on wound management by combining the use of collagenase enzymatic ointment and moistened hypertonic sodium chloride in necrotic and chronic wounds from 2014 to 2015. It was proved that wound beds were well prepared for closure and even saved from limb amputation. To speed up wound healing under limited budget in advanced dressing materials, by adopting results of this innovative wound management concept from 2014-2015 and the theory of negative pressure wound therapy, a modified low suction drainage system (MLSDS) was applied to one heavily infected diabetic heel osteomyelitis wound with sural flap dehiscence and one open laparotomy wound with surgical site infection. To ensure clear handover, color-printed photo-guide was employed for communication.

Objectives

- 1.To reduce the cost in advanced wound care products
- 2.To unify the techniques in advanced wound care
- 3.To enhance communication with health care professionals
- 4.To enlighten nursing involvement in wound care

Methodology

- 1.By simultaneous irrigation and drainage with Yankauer suction to mechanically debrided the wound so as to reduce bacteria burden and reduce pain
- 2.By using collagenase enzymatic debridement control odors, remove slough and necrotic tissue
- 3.Apply hypertonic sodium chloride to control exudate and decrease odor in a tolerable pain
- 4.Apply modified low suction drainage system (MLSDS) to drain out the excessive fluid from the wound and maintain sub- atmospheric pressure at the wound site fostering improvement in vascular perfusion, decreasing bacterial counts and controlling local edema.
- 5.Preparing color-printed photo guide to maintain effective communication and the consistence in techniques of change dressing.

Result

After using the mentioned dressing method in 40 and 61 days respectively, both

wound beds were well prepared for wound closure in ward and no operation theatre resources involved. The total expenses of dressing materials for these two wounds by using this modified low suction drainage system were HK\$2164 while the commercial products was HK\$23430. It demonstrated that this modified low suction drainage system could enhance wound healing in a cost effective way.

This case report preliminary evidenced that an innovative modified low suction drainage system definitely enhancing wound closure in an economic manner. To drive the change, passion of the nurses is one of major element for innovation. To sustain the change, patients' collaboration, staff's engagement and surgeons' trust are vital.