

3M™ Tegaderm™ Matrix

Matrix Dressing with PHI™

Treatment with Tegaderm Matrix: treatment of a pressure ulcer over the elbow

The care of Mrs Ashford

Mrs Ashford was a 75 year old lady who lived in a nursing home. She was nursed on an air mattress when in bed but she developed a very nasty pressure ulcer on her elbow which was grade IV, (*down to bone*). It was thought that she had developed the sore from the arm of her chair when sitting out during the day. This had been rectified a month previously by padding her elbow. She was placed on bed rest but the ulcer did not improve. After 3 months the wound was indolent and required stimulating to initiate the healing process.

The previous dressing used was a hydrofiber dressing which was held in place by retention bandages. As the dressing was changed twice weekly the cost of treatment was low (*approximately £77.00 per month*).

Tegaderm Matrix was first applied on 15th July. It was covered with a simple foam dressing to absorb fluid and provide a moist wound healing environment. Orthopaedic wool and a simple retention bandage held the dressings in place and padded the elbow.

The progress of the wound was remarkable, healing within 1 month from a large grade IV ulcer to complete closure. Since a healed wound bears no cost of treatment, a saving of £77 per month resulted from the use of Tegaderm Matrix after one month's treatment.



Figure 1.

15th July: Wound measured 2.8 x 2.2cm with necrotic tissue, and is deep (grade IV)



Figure 2.

28th July: Within two weeks, the wound is a fraction of the original size



Figure 3.

4th August: The wound is now on the point of closure with little to no exudate



Figure 4.

12th August: The wound cannot be measured and can be considered closed. A reduction in surface area of 5.6 sq cm. Healing has occurred in 4 weeks