Economical Wound Treatment with *honeycomb-structured Polyurethane Foam* *

Herbert O. Vorhauer
lic. rer. pol, health economist
Martinsrain 8, CH-4125 Riehen
Switzerland

INTRODUCTION:
The question is: How to take care of wounds safely and economically effective?
Not everyone has extensive opportunities for wound care and often the treatment costs show a poor relation to the rate of wound healing. Nevertheless there is a solution that is very simple and effective: *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam**.
Case Study: A 35-year-old female patient diagnosed with breast cancer with resulting amputation, remodelling of breast with abdominal tissue. A month after surgery, the scar became inflamed and a necrosis was diagnosed.

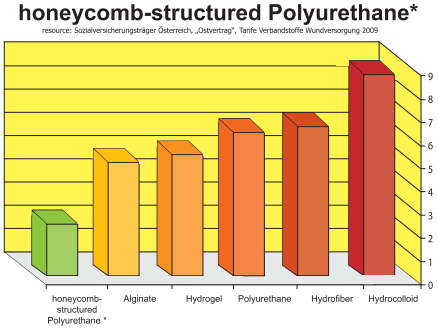
RESULTS:
Prior to the treatment with *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** the wound was treated with Alginate- and Hydrocolloid-dressings for ten weeks. After no substantial improvement could be diagnosed, doctors decided to use *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam**. After only two weeks the necrosis detached on its own with no manual intervention. Fibrin desposits were also reduced. Because of *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** unique properties blood flow to the wound was enhanced while at the same time the *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** dressing effectively absorbed exudate. Therefore the wound started to quickly granulate. In addition, the *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** dressing created the moist environment recommended. After 8 weeks cortisone treatment was discontinued because no germs or infections could be found within the wound. In week 12 the wound had healed off completely.

* This work has been made possible by an unrestricted research grant from
MOLTOPLAST healthcare with MOMOSAN

AIM:
The aim of the treatment was to dissolve the necrosis without surgical debridement.
Any remaining germs should be flushed out with the exudate, thus facilitating the healing process. The wound should be treated exclusively with *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** until complete healing is achieved.

Material required:
4 pck. sterile, 10 pcs. per package
24x16x1cm Item no. 61903 € 59,00 each
2 pck. non-sterile, 26 pcs. per package 15x10x1cm
Item no. 61101 € 29,90 each
Total treatment costs for 12 weeks **€ 295,80**

Unit costs in € of various wound dressings in comparison with
honeycomb-structured Polyurethane*



METHODS:
Process of wound healing: begin treatment with *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam**:

- 25.05: the medical staff started wrapping the *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** around the necrosis. On top of the wound, they placed a sterile *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** pad cut to wound size, and added another sterile *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** pad as secondary dressing. Treatment continued over a period of a week and similar the patient continued to receive cortisone applications. After only two days, it became evident that the necrosis started to detach.
- 02.06: It was possible to work the necrosis to the side and line the wound with *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam**. Now the quantity of exudate increased considerably. Therefore the patient had to change the dressing two or three times a day with instructions. She was told that the discharge of o reddish brown exudate from the secondary dressing is an indication to Change the foam dressing.
- 06.06.: the patient was able to remove the necrotic tissue herself during a change of foam dressing. It had detached.
- 14.08: In the last 3 weeks prior to the closing of the wound on 14th August, the patient only had to change the dressing with prior zinc ointment treatment every 3rd day.

CONCLUSION:
After a treatment period of 12 weeks, all desired aims had been achieved.The Necrosis had detached.
Any remaining germs were flushed out and the wound healed completely. A simple, effective, and very economical way to care for pressure ulcers.
Finally, we can conclude that *honeycomb structured Polyurethane Foam** is the most costeffective treatment and surpassed the expected results.