

Experiences in the Use of Acticoat in Plastic Surgery

*Th. Rappl, M. V. Schintler, F. Haas, M. Hubmer,
F. Schwarzl, H. Koch und E. Prandl,*

Objective: The antimicrobial and clinical effect of silver containing dressings applied on wounds of different ethiology was analysed.

Methods: Acticoat was used in the management of infected leg ulcers, neuropathic/ diabetic foot ulcers, ulcers after breast surgery, burns and traumatic wounds. After a sharp debridement the dressings were applied and kept moist for up to three days. Dressing changes were carried out every third day. The antimicrobial effect was evaluated by bacterial cultures, healing characteristics, formation of new granulation or epithelial tissue were monitored.

Results: After the use of nanocrystalline silver containing dressings uneventful healing, wound size reduction, bacterial reduction and positive wound-bed preparation for following operations could be achieved in most of the cases (even in cases which were treated unsuccessfully several times before).

Conclusion: Because of the antimicrobial activity and the excellent tolerance of nanocrystalline silver containing dressings we have found Acticoat to be very effective for the wound management in a wide range of application.

Department of Plastic and Reconstr. Surg., Univ. Hospital Graz, Austria