

HHF - PROCEDURE

ORIGINAL DATE: 07/03

REVISED DATE: 06/05

SUBJECT: WOUND CARE – OASIS WOUND MATRIX APPLICATION

PURPOSE: 1.) To provide a naturally-occurring, extracellular matrix that provides a natural environment for wound management;
2.) to maintain a moist wound environment

Considerations

OASIS Wound Matrix is an advanced wound management product that is specially designed for the management of wounds such as pressure, venous and diabetic ulcers as well as surgical and trauma wounds. These dressings are available in different sizes and should be ordered to fit the wound bed, with slight overlap. The wounds that are treated with OASIS must be free of adherent necrotic tissue and have viable wound edges.

Supplies/Equipment

Clean gloves, wound cleansing or irrigation supplies; OASIS Wound Matrix which is large enough to cover the wound, exceeding the wound margins by 1 cm.; clean scissors to be used if the dressing needs to be cut to fit a particular area; clean forceps; secondary dressing(s) to facilitate maintenance of a moist clean wound bed without periwound maceration; skin prep (optional); plastic bags for disposal of old dressing;

Procedure

1. Follow clean technique procedure beginning with removal of dressing. Carefully remove and discard old dressing.
2. After hand washing, don appropriate personal protective equipment.
3. Cleanse and prepare the wound bed according to physician order so the wound is free of debris and necrotic tissue.
4. Dry the surrounding skin and assess the wound.
5. Using clean technique, cut the dry OASIS sheet to a size that exceeds the wound margins by 1cm.
6. Apply skin prep to the periwound as indicated by the characteristics of the periwound tissue.
7. Position the cut, dry OASIS sheet on the wound surface so that it overlaps all wound edges. While holding the OASIS in place, gently pour normal saline over OASIS to rehydrate. An alternative is to rehydrate OASIS in sterile saline before it is placed on the wound.

8. If the wound is larger than one sheet of OASIS, use as many sheets as needed to cover the entire wound and to assure all the wound margins are slightly overlapped.
9. Use a non-adherent secondary dressing such as Mepitel or Adaptic over OASIS to keep OASIS in place and to maintain a moist environment.
10. Cover with an additional dressing based on the amount of wound drainage expected to maintain a moist wound environment without maceration. Never let OASIS dry out. Consider antimicrobial dressings (such as Iodoflex or Acticoat 7) as secondary dressings if wound onset of colonization/infection is a concern.
11. Change the secondary dressing as needed to manage exudate and/or maintain a moist wound environment. Make sure that OASIS is undisturbed with the dressing change. Ideally, wound exudate would be well managed with secondary dressing and changes would be required no more than once per week. If OASIS is disturbed during dressing change, place additional OASIS in any areas where it is no longer covering the wound.
12. During dressing changes, a caramel-colored gel might be seen on the wound. This is common and a result of OASIS being combined with body fluids. The gel should be rinsed away with gentle irrigation and additional OASIS applied. OASIS should never be forcibly removed from the wound bed as this could disturb budding epithelial cells on the periphery of the wound.
13. Provide skilled assessment including wound measurements once per week and place additional OASIS weekly, covered with the appropriate secondary dressing(s) changed as necessary until the wound has completely epithelialized.
14. Discard all disposable materials in a plastic bag, tie the bag and assure that it is discarded in a second plastic bag according to HHF Policy #1931 – *Handling and Disposing of Hazardous Material and Waste*.
15. Clean reusable instruments according to HHF Policy #1006 – *Management of Medical Equipment and Supplies and Sterile Product Use*.
16. Document findings in the wound note and include patient/family/caregiver education regarding the purpose of OASIS, the necessary visit frequency to assess the wound (s) and place OASIS, and the steps necessary for the patient/family to take to maximize healing with OASIS and/or if issues or complications arise. Update plan of care as necessary.
17. Continue to place OASIS weekly until the wound has healed. If measurable progress toward wound healing is not made by the third OASIS application, consult physician to determine if a change in plan of care is appropriate.

References:

1. OASIS Wound Matrix Application Protocol. Healthpoint Ltd., San Antonio, TX, 2003.
2. Hodde, J and M. Hiles. OASIS Wound Matrix: Technology for Advanced Wound Care. *Resources for Tissue Management*. HHMP Communications. Malvern, PA. Vol. 3, Number 2, December 2002.

Approved Policy Committee: 09/13/05