

The use of Activon® Tube & Actilite® on a paediatric burn

Sharon Donnelly – Sister Paediatric Practice Development, Burns & Plastic Surgery

Introduction

Many advances have been made in the management of burn injury in the past decade. Improvement of the wound healing environment with the use of honey dressings has greatly improved the healing of burn wounds. The case study demonstrates the use of Activon® Tube & Actilite® (Advancis Medical) and how this addressed the patient's needs whilst recognising clinical objectives.

Patient and wound



Fig. 1

A 6 year old girl was admitted with a 2% flame burn to the right side of her neck and face. She had been at her grandparent's garden earlier that evening when a firework exploded in a sideways direction towards her. This ignited her coat and she sustained mixed depth burns to her neck and face.

On initial assessment she was found to have a large white area which was insensate and leathery (see fig: 1). This area was surrounded by erythema. An anaesthetic review ruled out an airway injury and antibiotics commenced.

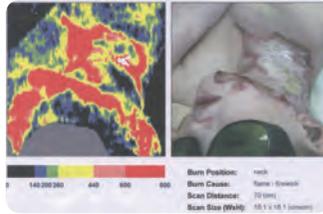


Fig. 2

On day 3 post burn the wound was reviewed again. A Lazer Doppler image indicated low blood flow to the centre of the wound (see fig: 2) and the decision was made to skin graft. Unfortunately the little girl developed a cough and theatre was delayed for 5 days. During this time Activon® Tube was applied to the wound.

When the child was clinically well the burn was debrided and a sheet graft was applied. The graft was reviewed at day 5 post surgery (see fig: 3) and a further dressing using Actilite® was applied until fully healed at day 7.

Clinical objectives



Fig. 3

- Restore skin barrier
- Prevent infection
- Reduce painful dressing procedures

Challenges in wound management

- Patient comfort
- Location of the wound
- Reduce frequency of dressing changes

Benefits

- Less traumatic to the child at dressing changes
- Easy to apply
- Dressing maintained function and mobility

Conclusion

The goal of burn injuries in children is to prevent infection, limit painful dressings and promote healing; Activon® Tube and Actilite® dressings achieved this.