Johnson & Johnson Wound Management Announces Novel ORC/Collagen Matrix Dressing for Chronic Wounds

SOMERVILLE, N.J., April 30 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Johnson & Johnson Wound Management today announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared PROMOGRAN® Matrix Wound Dressing as the first and only chronic wound dressing that combines oxidized regenerated cellulose (ORC) and collagen. PROMOGRAN Matrix is indicated for the treatment of exuding wounds including, but not limited to, diabetic, venous and pressure ulcers.

PROMOGRAN Matrix is a unique advanced wound care device comprised of a sterile, freeze-dried matrix composite of 45% ORC and 55% collagen. ORC is a plant material that has been chemically altered to be absorbed by the body. Collagen is a natural structural protein found in all three phases of wound healing. By binding to matrix metallo-proteases (MMP's), and growth factors, ORC/Collagen creates a moist wound healing environment, which is conducive to new tissue growth.

"The treatment of chronic wounds is an ongoing challenge for healthcare professionals today," stated Peter Sheehan, MD, Director of the Diabetes Foot & Ankle Center at the Hospital for Joint Diseases Orthopaedic Institute in New York City. "By adding ORC/collagen matrix to a standard wound care protocol, clinicians can be confident that PROMOGRAN may not only create an optimal environment for moist wound healing, but may also bind matrix metallo-proteases and allow growth factors to act effectively."

Matrix Metallo-proteases (MMP's)

MMP's are inflammatory enzymes that degrade proteins in various tissues. Recent scientific research has shown elevated levels of MMP's in chronic wound exudate, the fluid that bathes the wound bed. These excess MMP's cause degradation of important extracellular matrix proteins and inactivation of vital growth factors, elements that are essential in the wound healing process. This may contribute to a sub-optimal healing environment resulting in delayed wound healing.(1)

ORC/Collagen

ORC/Collagen binds to MMP's in chronic wound exudate, without altering the activity of essential tissue growth factors, at the same time creating an optimal milieu for moist wound healing.(2)

PROMOGRAN Matrix maintains a physiologically moist microenvironment at the wound surface. This environment is conducive to tissue granulation; epithelialization and rapid wound healing. In the presence of exudate, the PROMOGRAN Matrix transforms into a soft, conformable, biodegradable gel, thus allowing contact with all areas of the wound. PROMOGRAN Matrix should not be used on patients with known hypersensitivity to ORC and/or collagen.

Johnson & Johnson Wound Management, a division of ETHICON, INC., a Johnson & Johnson company, continues Johnson and Johnson's 100-year commitment to skin and wound care today with inventive products for chronic and acute wound management, burn care and hemostasis. For more information about Johnson & Johnson Wound Management or other ETHICON divisions, visit or http://www.advancedwoundcare.com or http://www.ethiconinc.com.

(1) Ability of chronic wound fluids to degrade peptide growth factors is associated with increased levels of elastase activity and diminished levels of proteinase inhibitors; D. Yager, S. Chen, S. Ward, O. Olutoye, R. Diegelmann, K. Cohen. Wound repair and regeneration, 1997, vol 5, pp23-32.


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