

## Wound Dressing Categories

Category	Examples	Description	Applications
Alginate	AlgiSite KALTOSTAT Sorbsan Calginate	This seaweed extract contains guluronic and mannuronic acids, which provide tensile strength, and calcium and sodium alginates, which confer absorptive capacity. Some of these can leave fibers in the wound if not thoroughly irrigated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly absorbent</li> <li>• Useful for wounds with copious exudates</li> <li>• (Alginate rope is particularly useful for packing exudative wound cavities or sinus tracts.)</li> <li>• Requires secondary dressing</li> </ul>
Foams	LYOFOAM Tielle Polymem Allevyn	Polyurethane foam has some absorptive capacity. Semi-occlusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Useful for clean granulating wounds with minimal exudates</li> <li>• Hypergranulation</li> <li>• Used as primary or secondary dressing.</li> </ul>
Hydrocolloid	CombiDERM Comfeel Replicare Duoderm Restore	This is a microgranular suspension of natural or synthetic polymers such as gelatin or pectin in an adhesive matrix. The granules transform from a semihydrated state to a gel as wound exudate is absorbed. Occlusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Useful for dry necrotic wounds or those with minimal exudate Also useful for clean granulating wounds</li> <li>• Autolytic debridement of minimal to moderate amount of slough/necrosis</li> <li>• Prevent secondary infection from contamination</li> <li>• Maintain moist wound surface</li> <li>• Provide limited to moderate absorption</li> </ul>
Hydrogel	Solosite Intrasite NuGel Transigel Curasol Dermagran	These are water- or glycerin-based semipermeable hydrophilic polymers; cooling properties may decrease wound pain. These gels can lose or absorb water depending on the state of hydration of the wound. Dressings are secured with a secondary covering.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Useful for dry, sloughy, necrotic wounds (eschar)</li> <li>• Support autolytic debridement due to moisturizing effects</li> <li>• Maintain moist wound surface</li> <li>• Pain relief in radiation-damaged tissue and superficial burns</li> </ul>
Contact Layers	Mepitel Dermanet Telpha Clear	This is a variety of materials designed to remove easily without damaging underlying skin. Single layer woven net, low adherence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary dressing for partial or full thickness wounds</li> <li>• Donor sites, split thickness skin grafts,</li> <li>• Exudative wounds</li> </ul>
Transparent films	OpSite Tegaderm Bioclusive	These are highly conformable acrylic adhesive films with no absorptive capacity and little hydrating ability. Dressings may be vapor permeable or perforated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Useful for clean dry wounds with minimal exudates</li> <li>• Also used to secure an underlying absorptive material</li> <li>• Protection of high-friction areas and areas that are difficult to bandage, such as heels</li> </ul>
Speciatly Absorpitves	Aquacell	Multi-layered dressing, highly absorptive fiber layers such as cellulose, cotton, or rayon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage light to heavy exudates</li> <li>• Partial or full thickness</li> <li>• Necrotic or granulating</li> <li>• May be used on infected wounds</li> </ul>

## Common Drugs Used in Wound Care

<p><b>Antibiotic Ointment</b> - Chemical agents that eliminate living organisms pathogenic to the host; broad-spectrum antibacterials are useful for mixed infections (frequently more than one pathogen is present and quick identification is difficult) Avoid long-term usage of antibacterials, to prevent the development of resistance. Check for allergies. Bacitracin – effective against gram positive cocci and bacilli, Gentamicin - effective against gram negative organisms including E.Coli, and Pseudomonas, Bactroban – effective against staph aureus, MRSA, beta hemolytic streptococcus, Neomycin Sulfate – effective against most gram-negative organisms except Pseudomonas, Polymyxin B – effective against Pseudomonas and other aerobic gram negative bacilli, Neosporin/Triple A – is a combination of Polymyxin B, Bacitracin Zinc, and Neomycin sulfate, and Polysporin – is a combination of Polymyxin B and Bacitracin Zinc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires secondary dressing</li> <li>• Should not be used in deep cavity wounds</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accuzyme Ointment</b> - Papain-Urea Debriding Ointment; made with papain from the fruit of carica papaya, which digests nonviable protein matter without harming viable tissue and is combined with urea to stimulate its digestive potency to assist in debridement of necrotic tissue and liquefaction of slough in acute and chronic wounds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available by prescription only</li> <li>• Requires secondary dressing</li> <li>• Reimbursed by Medicaid in most states</li> </ul>
<p><b>Gentamicin Sulfate 0.1%</b> - Topical antibiotic ointment effective for primary and secondary bacterial infections, susceptible bacteria: Streptococci, Staphylococcus aureus, Psuedomonas auruginosa, gram negavitve bacteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Used for infected superficial burns</li> <li>• Insect bites, stings</li> <li>• Lacerations, abrasions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Polysporin Powder</b> – antibacterial powder containing Polymyxin B sulfate and zinc Bacitracin, effective against gram-positive cocci and bacilli, Neisseria, Haemophilus influenza, Pseudomonas and other aerobic gram-negative bacilli but not against proteus and serratia species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitization can occur after long term usage.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Santyl Collagenase</b> - - A proteolytic enzyme that debrides necrotic tissue from wounds without destroying healthy granulation tissue; use once a day; collagen specific</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available by prescription only</li> <li>• Requires secondary dressing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Silvadene Ointment</b> - Silver Sulfadiazine; has broad spectrum antibacterial spectrum including staphylococcus aureus, E. coli, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Proteus mirabilis, candida albicans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available by prescription only</li> <li>• Hepatic and renal impairment – avoid use due to poor drug elimination</li> </ul>
<p><b>Panafil Ointment</b> – Enzymatic debriding healing ointment, potent digestant of nonviable protein matter, Harmless to viable tissue, papain urea and chlorophyll copper complex treatment of acute and chronic lesions such as varicose, diabetic and decubitus ulcers, burns, postoperative wounds, pilonidal cyst wounds, carbuncles and miscellaneous traumatic or infected wounds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available by prescription only</li> <li>• Available in spray form</li> <li>• Reimbursed by Medicaid in most states</li> </ul>
<p><b>REGANEX Gel</b> contains becaplermin, a recombinant human platelet-derived growth factor (rhPDGF-BB) for topical administration, indicated for the treatment of lower extremity diabetic neuropathic ulcers that extend into the subcutaneous tissue or beyond and have an adequate blood supply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available by prescription only</li> <li>• Must be kept refrigerated</li> <li>• Requires supplemental moist dressing</li> </ul>
<p><b>Xenaderm Ointment</b>- protective healing ointment with Trypsin, Balsam Peru, and Castor Oil – applied directly to skin, no dressing required, Used on stage 2 ulcers, excoriated denuded skin manufactured by Healthpoint</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available by prescription only</li> <li>• No dressing required</li> </ul>