3M™ Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag Silver Dressing

Application and Removal Techniques

3M™ Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag Silver Dressing is a highly absorbent, sterile, non-woven antimicrobial dressing composed of a high G (guluronic acid) calcium alginate, carboxymethylcellulose (CMC), and an ionic silver complex (silver sodium hydrogen zirconium phosphate), which releases silver ions in the presence of wound exudate.

As wound exudate is absorbed, the dressing forms a gel, which assists in maintaining a moist environment for optimal wound healing and allows intact removal.

The silver ions protect the dressing from a broad spectrum of microorganisms over a period of up to 14 days, based on in-vitro* testing. Odor reduction results from the antimicrobial effect in the dressing. Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag silver dressing is an effective barrier to bacterial penetration.

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**Indications:**

Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag dressing is indicated for use as a primary wound dressing in the management of moderate to heavily exuding, partial- to full-thickness wounds such as:

- Post-operative wounds
- Trauma wounds (dermal lesions, trauma injuries or incisions)
- Leg ulcers
- Pressure ulcers
- Diabetic ulcers
- Graft and donor sites
- Second degree (superficial, partial-thickness) burns

Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag dressing can be used under compression bandages.

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**Contraindications:**

Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag dressing is not indicated for the following:

- Use on individuals with known sensitivities to alginates or silver
- Use as a surgical sponge or for surgical implantation
- Use to control heavy bleeding

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**Directions for Use:**

Note: Follow facility guidelines for infection control.

**Before Using the Dressing:**

1. Use of an antimicrobial dressing should be part of a plan of care that addresses wound bed preparation.

2. Clip excess hair from around the wound if an adhesive cover dressing is to be used.

Note: If the skin around the wound is easily damaged or drainage is expected to go beyond the wound edge, a skin barrier film such as 3M™ Cavilon™ No Sting Barrier Film may be applied. Allow the barrier film to dry.

3. Evaluate the wound and select a size of Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag dressing that is slightly larger than the wound.

4. Select a cover dressing appropriate to the amount of drainage such as 3M™ Tegaderm™ Foam Adhesive Dressing or 3M™ Tegaderm™ Foam Dressing (nonadhesive). Make sure that the cover dressing can overlap the wound edge by at least 1 inch.

*Data on file at 3M.
**Dressing Application: Flat Pad**

1. For superficial wounds, the dressing may be cut or folded to fit wound site with no more than 1/8 inch overlap at wound edge. This overlap is necessary, as dressing will retract slightly as it absorbs.

2. Apply dressing to wound bed. For use in wounds with depth, loosely fill wound with dressing, making sure that dressing does not overlap onto wound margin or surrounding skin.


**Dressing Application: Rope**

1. Using sterile cotton tip applicator or gloved finger, gently fill wound with rope.

2. Make sure that dressing contacts all wound surfaces, including areas of undermining or tunneling.

Dressing Removal: Pad or Rope

Gently remove the cover dressing.

Gently remove the dressing from the wound.

If the 3M™ Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag Silver Dressing appears dry or adheres to the wound bed, saturate the dressing with sterile saline or a wound cleanser prior to removal. Discard the soiled dressing.

Precautions and Considerations:

• Systemic antimicrobial therapy should be considered when wound infection is evident. Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag dressing may be used, under medical supervision, in conjunction with systemic antibiotics.
• The dressing may adhere if used on dry or very lightly exuding wounds. If the dressing is not easily removed, moisten it with sterile saline solution prior to removal.
• It is possible that the amount of drainage could decrease rapidly during dressing use. The dressing may adhere to the wound or site if allowed to dry; this may result in disruption of the wound or site upon removal. When using the dressing, the health care professional may want to change the dressing more frequently to maintain moisture of the dressing and observe the condition of the wound or site.
• The dressing performance may be impaired by use of petroleum-based ointments.
• The dressing should be removed prior to MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) procedures.
• Do not use if individual pouch is damaged or opened.

Caution:
Federal Law (U.S.A.) restricts the device to sale by or on the order of a physician (or properly licensed health care practitioner).
3M™ Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag Silver Dressing

Ordering Information

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* HCPCS codes as referenced in the Local Coverage Determination Surgical Dressing Policy.

Disclaimer:
HCPCS codes have been provided to assist you in the preparation of Medicare Part B claims. Please note, however, that the reimbursement information provided by 3M Health Care and its representatives is intended to provide general information relevant to coverage and coding for 3M products. Insurers’ reimbursement policies can vary and the use of the codes discussed here does not guarantee that an insurer will cover or pay at any particular level. Health care providers should exercise independent clinical judgment in choosing the codes which most accurately describe the products provided.

To learn more about Tegaderm™ Alginate Ag Silver Dressing, visit us at www.3M.com/Tegaderm-AlginateAg.
For more information about the Skin & Wound Care family of products, visit us at www.3M.com/skinhealth, contact your 3M Skin & Wound Care representative or call the 3M Health Care Customer Helpline at 1-800-228-3957. Outside of the United States, contact the local 3M subsidiary.