

A novel approach to foam.

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Jan Rice

Review by Jan Rice

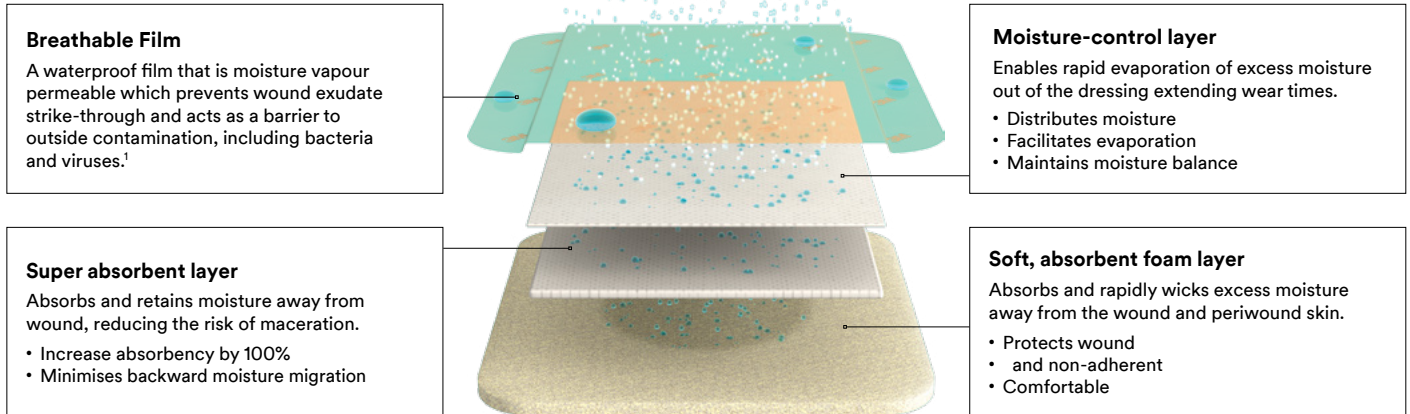
When assessing a patient with a wound, one of the issues often encountered is the shape of the wound and the products available to fit or appropriately cover the wound. 3M, a company renowned for its innovation, has produced a high performance foam in a roll presentation, enabling the clinician control over size and shape.

Foam dressings serve a number of functions in wound care - protecting vulnerable tissue, aiding in managing wound exudates through absorption and dissipation of moisture vapour and finally as a padded secondary dressing to provide comfort and security against further trauma. There are many medical grade foams available in the market today and deciding just which one to select can be difficult.



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3M™ Tegaderm™ High Performance Foam Non-Adhesive Dressing in a roll presentation has proven extremely useful in community settings where the clinician can cut off just what is required and shape it to the needs of the wound. They can then replace any remaining foam back in the protective re-sealable bag and label it with date and patient's name so that it is available for re-use as required.

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Tegaderm™ High Performance Foam Dressings have the ability to soak up wound exudate rapidly and lock the fluid within the foam layers. The moisture vapour can then pass off and through the high moisture vapour transmission rate (MVTR) film covering. Moisture vapour transmission rate is a serious consideration to make when selecting a foam for a moderately exuding wound.

The graphic above demonstrates how the four layers on the Tegaderm™ High Performance Foam Dressing work to adapt to changing levels of exudate and maintain moisture balance for optimal wound healing.

Cost is another consideration for clinicians. The Tegaderm™ High Performance Foam Dressing has the ability to reduce wastage because the size can be adjusted as the wound progresses to healing without the need to order products of varying sizes.

So, I would encourage you to try this product and provide your feedback to 3M about their novel foam solution for community settings.



Tegaderm™ High Performance Foam Dressing has been designed to be an excellent partner for 3M™ Coban™2 Layer Compression Bandages.



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1. In vitro testing shows that the transparent film of Tegaderm™ brand dressings provides a viral barrier from viruses 27 nm in diameter or larger while the dressing remains intact without leakage.



To learn more about Tegaderm™ Foam Dressings, visit our websites

www.3M.com.au/moisture
www.3M.co.nz/moisture