

3M™ Tegaderm™ High Integrity Alginate Dressing and 3M™ Tegaderm™ High Gelling Alginate Dressings

Commonly Asked Questions

Question:

How much do Tegaderm™ High Integrity and Tegaderm™ High Gelling Alginates absorb, and how does this compare to other alginates on the market?

Answer:

A white paper has been published based on the testing done in the 3M Skin Health Lab (publication number 70-2009-0803-9). The findings indicate that Tegaderm™ High Integrity and Tegaderm™ High Gelling Alginates compare favorably to leading competition. Both Tegaderm™ Alginates absorb approximately 20 times their weight in fluid.

Question:

How do Tegaderm™ Alginates compare to a hydrofiber dressing?

Answer:

Tegaderm™ High Integrity and Tegaderm™ High Gelling Alginates and hydrofiber dressings are primary wound dressings clinically indicated for use on draining partial and full-thickness wounds.

Alginates are nonwoven dressings made from calcium alginate fibers, derived from brown seaweed. Hydrofiber dressings are composed of carboxymethyl cellulose, an absorbent carbohydrate.

Both dressing types are sterile, highly conformable, soft, and absorbent. Both react with wound exudate to form a gelatinous substance, absorbing up to 20 times their weight in wound exudate. Tegaderm™ Alginate retain their integrity for ease of removal from the wound bed with or without irrigation.

Question:

How often do you change a Tegaderm™ High Integrity or Tegaderm™ High Gelling Alginates?

Answer:

Typically alginate dressings are changed every 1-3 days, however the dressing may be left in place for *up to 7 days depending on the condition of the wound*. Dressing change frequency will depend on wound characteristics and the amount of drainage. Alginate dressings may be left in the wound until saturated. Change frequently enough to prevent saturation of the outer dressing and leakage of drainage onto surrounding skin, which can cause maceration. As volume of drainage decreases, frequency of dressing change may be decreased or an alternative dressing should be considered.

**Health Care**

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For More Information

Contact your 3M Health Care Sales Representative, or call the 3M Health Care Customer Helpline at **1-800-228-3957**. These products can be ordered from your local distributor. Outside the United States, contact the local 3M subsidiary.