A Retrospective Study of the Effects of Collagenase Santyl Ointment and Negative Pressure Wound Therapy for the Treatment of Chronic Pressure Ulcers

**Purpose**

To present clinical research from large retrospective study in which patients received negative pressure wound therapy with and without the addition of Collagenase Santyl ointment. The purpose of the study was to determine what, if any, effect the addition of Collagenase Santyl ointment would have on wound closure rates, length of hospitalization, etc.

**Objectives**

At the conclusion of this presentation the participant will be able to:

1. Describe benefits of enzymatic debridement and negative pressure wound therapy for the treatment of chronic pressure ulcers.
2. Identify clinical benefits of the combination of wound treatments to reduce length of hospitalization and improve wound closure rates.
3. List several factors which mitigate initial increased wound treatment cost in light of overall healthcare savings.

**Abstract**

Non-healing, chronic pressure ulcers have created a continuous challenge in the global healthcare venue. The cost of treatment is very high due to prolonged hospitalizations, frequent complications and the expense of healing modalities. Debridement of pressure wounds is an important process to decrease risk of infection and promote healing. Enzymatic debridement is one technique that has been found to be beneficial, particularly for patients who do not qualify for surgical debridement. The enzymatic agents assist in the removal of deadened tissue by using proteolytic enzymes to hydrolyze denatured proteins in wound eschar. Clostridium collagenase is a selective enzymatic agent, which has been found to cause hydrolytic cleavage of collagen molecules. It is currently the active ingredient in the only FDA approved enzymatic debriding ointment, Collagenase Santyl™. Negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) is another treatment that has been found to be effective in the healing of pressure ulcers. It has provided a gateway in advancing the healing process of acute, sub acute, and chronic wounds. Although conclusive research has demonstrated the positive effects of both Collagenase Santyl ointment and NPWT separately as treatments for chronic pressure wounds, there are no published studies that have investigated the two as a collective treatment. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of
wound closure using Collagenase Santyl ointment in conjunction with NPWT versus NPWT alone for the treatment of chronic pressure ulcers in the long term acute care setting.

References

3. Shi, Lei, and Dennis Carson.