

HydroTac® FAQ Document

HydroTherapy

HydroClean®plus HydroTac® HydroTac® Comfort



Frequently asked questions

HydroTac®

HydroTac® Comfort

INTRODUCTION

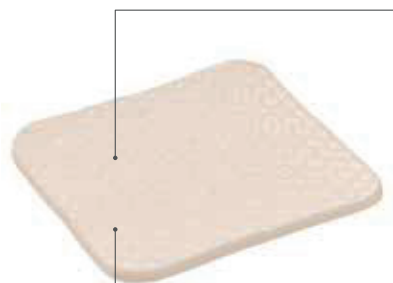


What is HydroTac®?

HydroTac® is a Hydro-Responsive Wound Dressing with AquaClear™ Technology. HydroTac® absorbs, hydrates and is designed to promote granulation and epithelialisation.^{1,2}

HydroTac® and HydroTac® Comfort can absorb wound exudate and release moisture, thereby balancing the moisture at the wound bed.^{2,3}

HydroTac®



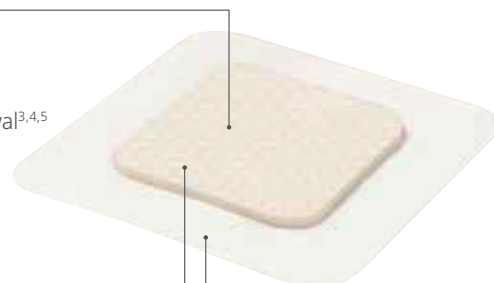
AquaClear Technology
(Gel Contact Layer)

- Hydrates the wound²
- Soothes³
- Helps to alleviate pain on removal^{3,4,5}
- Reduces pain compared to previous treatment^{3,4,5}

**ABSORBENT
POLYURETHANE FOAM**

- Absorbs exudate^{3,4}
- Reduces maceration^{5,6}
- Retains exudate under compression⁷

HydroTac® Comfort



**EXTRA THIN
ADHESIVE BORDER**

- Protective film provides bacterial barrier¹⁵
- Showerproof¹⁵



What is the difference between HydroTac® and HydroTac® Comfort?

HydroTac® Comfort has an adhesive border which is coated with a polyacrylate adhesive to secure the dressing to the skin. HydroTac® has no adhesive border and requires additional fixation.



What are HydroTac® and HydroTac® Comfort made from?

HydroTac® is an air-permeable, waterproof dressing with a bacteria resistant¹⁵ outer layer made of polyurethane. The dressing is made up of a conformable polyurethane foam with a hydrated polyurethane gel contact layer, AquaClear™ Technology.

Is HydroTac® hypoallergenic?

We have no recorded reactions to the dressings, precaution should be taken with patients who have sensitivities to any of the dressing properties.

What is the adhesive border made from?

The adhesive border on HydroTac® Comfort is a semi-permeable film, coated with a polyacrylate adhesive.

Does it contain latex?

No. The dressings do not contain latex.

How does it provide a barrier to bacteria?

The outer dressing has a protective film which provides a barrier protection from bacteria.¹⁵

What does the AquaClear Technology do?

The hydrated polyurethane or hydrogel used in HydroTac has a dual mode of action. It releases moisture^{1,2} and at the same time absorbs exudate.^{2,3} The hydrogel has 'selective absorption', which means that moisture molecules are absorbed and large protein molecules, such as growth factors, are not absorbed.⁸ This results in increased growth factor concentration at the wound bed, enhancing wound healing.^{8,9}

What types of wounds can I use HydroTac® for?

HydroTac® can be used for a variety of acute and chronic wounds with low to moderate levels of exudate, and dry wounds.⁴

Is it suitable for use on diabetic foot ulcers?

Yes. Case studies have shown HydroTac® to be effective on diabetic foot ulcers using local protocols.^{5,6,10,11}

Can exudate leak from the dressing?

Exudate is retained within the dressing and should not leak if changed appropriately.^{3,4,11}

Can I use HydroTac® on heavily exuding wounds?

HydroTac® is indicated for use on light to moderately exuding and dry wounds.

How long can HydroTac® stay on for?

HydroTac® should be changed when clinically indicated. Usually at 3 days in the case of moderate levels of exudate.

Is HydroTac®/HydroTac® Comfort waterproof?

HydroTac® is showerproof but not waterproof.

Does HydroTac® affect the peri-wound area?

It is safe to use on surrounding skin as the Aquaclear Technology helps protect tissue.^{4,5,6,11}

Can the surrounding skin become macerated?

HydroTac® should be changed at appropriate intervals depending on the levels of exudate produced. This will help to avoid macerating the peri-wound area.

Can I use a barrier film on the surrounding skin whilst using HydroTac®?

Yes. Barrier protection may be used.

Can HydroTac® Comfort be applied directly to the wound bed?

Yes. The Aquaclear Technology prevents the dressing from sticking to the wound bed and the dressing provides a warm, moist environment to encourage healing.^{3,4,5,11}

Can HydroTac® be applied under compression?

Yes. Case studies have shown that HydroTac® can be applied under compression and exudate is retained within the dressing to prevent maceration of surrounding skin.^{7,12,13}

How do I apply HydroTac®?

The transparent protective layer should be removed and the dressing placed gel-impregnated side on the wound. The initial tack makes HydroTac® easy to apply. For HydroTac® Comfort, the adhesive edges should be pressed down firmly without applying pressure to the wound. The protective top layer should then be removed.

Can it be placed in a cavity?

No. HydroTac® should not be inserted into a cavity wound. The cavity should be filled with an appropriate dressing as per local policy and HydroTac® can then be placed over the top of

this dressing.

How do I remove HydroTac® Comfort?

The seal of the border can be broken by gently teasing the corner away from the skin with a gloved finger. The border can be removed gently by pulling the border upwards whilst supporting the dressing with the other gloved hand and working steadily around the bordered edge.

How do I fixate HydroTac®?

HydroTac® can be secured using adhesive tapes or with a bandage depending on the condition of the surrounding skin. HydroTac® Comfort has an adhesive border and does not require additional fixation.

How do I know when to change HydroTac®?

HydroTac® should be changed when clinically indicated for example when exudate becomes visible.

Can I use HydroTac® Comfort on elderly/fragile skin?

Yes. HydroTac® Comfort may be used on delicate skin but caution should be exercised when removing the adhesive border. HydroTac® may be used if there are concerns and secured by a bandage.

Does HydroTac® reduce wound pain?

Yes. AquaClear Technology helps to soothe the wound and reduce pain.^{3,5,6,11,14}

Can HydroTac® and HydroTac® Comfort be used to reduce pain at dressing change?

Yes. AquaClear Technology helps prevent adhesion to the wound bed and helps to reduce pain on removal.^{3,4,5}

Is HydroTac® conformable?

Yes. HydroTac® is soft and highly conformable.^{3,4}

Does HydroTac® Comfort have a sacral dressing?

Yes, there are a number of shapes and sizes available including an 18cm x 18cm sacral dressing.

References

1. Ousey, K., Rogers, A.A. and Rippon, M.G. (2016). *Hydro-Responsive Wound Dressings simplify T.I.M.E. wound management framework*. British Journal of Community Nursing 21(Suppl. 12), pp. S39-S49.
2. Ousey, K., Rippon, M.G. and Rogers, A.A. (2016). *HydroTherapy made easy*. London: Wounds UK. Available from www.wounds-uk.com
3. Cole, S. (2017). *Clinical challenge of treating an exposed tendon to the forefoot: HydroTac® a new dressing approach*. Manuscript in preparation.
4. Spruce, P. and Bullough, L. (2016). *HydroTac®: case studies of use*. HydroTherapy Symposium. A New Perspective on Wound Cleansing, Debridement and Healing. London, 3 March, 2016.
5. Smola, H. et al. (2016). *From material science to clinical application – a novel foam dressing for the treatment of granulating wounds*. HydroTherapy Symposium. A New Perspective on Wound Cleansing, Debridement and Healing. London, 3 March, 2016.
6. Spruce, P., Bullough, L. and O'Brien, D. (2016). *A case study series evaluation of HydroTac®*. HydroTherapy Symposium. A New Perspective on Wound Cleansing, Debridement and Healing. London, 3 March, 2016.
7. Junginger, M. (2010). *Wettbewerber HydroTac® / HydroTac® comfort – Laboratory Report No. 1000083*. Heidenheim: Paul Hartmann AG. [Data on file]
8. Smola, H. et al. (2016) *Hydrated polyurethane polymers to increase growth factor availability in wound healing*. HydroTherapy Symposium. A New Perspective on Wound Cleansing, Debridement and Healing. London, 3 March, 2016.
9. Smola, H. (2016). *Simplified treatment options require high-performance dressings – from molecular mechanisms to intelligent dressing choices*. EWMA Conference. Bremen, 11-13 May, 2016.
10. Spruce, P., O'Brien, D. and Clarke, Z. (2016). *The use of HydroTherapy® to heal a complex foot ulcer in a diabetic patient*. HydroTherapy Symposium. A New Perspective on Wound Cleansing, Debridement and Healing. London, 3 March, 2016.
11. Bullough, L., Johnson, S. and O'Brien, D. (2016). *A multi-centre 15 patient evaluation of HydroTac® Comfort dressing*. HydroTherapy Symposium. A New Perspective on Wound Cleansing, Debridement and Healing. London, 3 March, 2016.
12. Zollinger, C. et al. (2014). *HydroTherapy*. Application study. Heidenheim: Paul Hartmann AG. [Data on file]
13. Scherer, R. et al. (2015). *HydroTherapy*. Application study. Heidenheim: Paul Hartmann AG. [Data on file]
14. Knowles, D., Wright, L. and Ricci, E. (2016). *HydroTherapy® wound healing of a post amputation site*. Wounds UK Annual Conference. Harrogate, 14-16 November, 2016.
15. Specification M3.5098. Data on file

