

3 case studies.  
Pressure ulcers where  
wound progression failed.

Removal of biofilm.  
Reduced Pain.  
Reduced odour.

HRWD® stimulated  
wound healing process.

# The Impact of Hydro-Responsive Wound Dressings on Complex Pressure Ulcers

By Caroline Carrington - Tissue Viability Specialist, Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

## Introduction

This poster presents three case studies in patients with complex pressure ulcers and explores the impact of a Hydro-Responsive Wound Dressings (HRWD®) used to debride and stimulate healing.

## Method

The dressings were applied to three complex pressure ulcers that failed to progress. The duration of the wounds ranged from 1 month to over 2 years.

## Case Studies and results

A 91-year-old male patient developed an unstageable ulcer with hard necrosis on his heel measuring 2x2cms. His ABPI was 1.1. Within 2 weeks of commencing a HRWD® the necrosis was removed and the wound had already reduced by 0.5cm. 2 months later complete healing was achieved.



Prior to application of HRWD®



After two weeks use of HRWD®

A wheelchair bound 73 year old male patient with type 2 diabetes and spinal degeneration developed a pressure ulcer to his ischial tuberosity that failed to heal for over 2 years. The wound was 3.5 x 3.5 x 1cm deep, with dull granulation, purulent discharge, odour, and excoriated skin. Topical negative pressure and an array of dressings failed to have an impact, the patient was depressed as he was unable to live life to its full potential. After two weeks, biofilm on the wound surface was removed and the skin became healthy. There was an increase in granulation tissue and the wound reduced to 3.5cm x 2cm. The patient's psychological status improved, he was much more positive and planning his next holiday.



Prior to application of HRWD®



After two weeks use of HRWD®

A female patient of 79 with osteoarthritis and reduced mobility developed a category 3 pressure ulcer that was necrotic and infected, resulting in a 5 month admission to hospital with sepsis. Previous dressings had minimal impact and were difficult to tolerate due to pain. HRWDs® were commenced, her pain was reduced and wound debris was completely removed over the next two months. Complete healing was achieved in 6 months.



23.01.17



03.05.17



20.07.17

## Discussion / Conclusion

All three of the patients discussed above were experiencing physiological and psychosocial effects of pressure ulceration. The rapid action HRWD® address all presenting issues, all patients had reduced odour, pain and antibiotics and the dressing stimulated healing in patients who had given up hope. HRWD® can be deemed of value to stimulate healing in complex pressure ulcers that have not responded to alternative therapies.

Hydro-Responsive Wound Dressing (HRWD®) is a trademark of HARTMANN UKI