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DIABETIC FOOT INFECTION – WOUND CLEANING WITH A POLIHEXAMIDE WOUND-RINSING SOLUTION*

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Aim: Diabetic foot wounds are mainly infected or will become infected soon after the have been diagnosed. Wound infection in diabetic patients are very risky for limb amputations and are life threatening of the patients. Wound bed preparation is one of most important things for the process of wound healing. Infected diabetic foot wounds usually a consequence of a trauma in the presence of ischaemia and peripheral neuropathy. Often polymicrobial infection is found. Usually it includes staphylococci, streptococci, coliforms and anaerobes. Microbiological diagnosis is based on a surface swabs and deep tissue biopsy. The results are difficult to interpret because these organisms are often secondary colonizers.

Methods: Patients were treated according to a standardized wound care protocol including first step removing the coatings before further treatment. Total 60 patients were included in the study. Mean age was 59.60 years $\pm$11.88. The ratio male: female is 3:1. Wound infection was defined by clinical criteria. The wounds in 30 patients were treated with a polihexamide wound-rinsing solution* for irrigation.

This group was compared to another group of patients (n=30) who were treated with a solution for irrigation ventrosteril 0.02%.

Results and discussion: Irrigation with a polihexamide wound-rinsing solution* has provided an efficient result to the point of wound closure. This treatment improvs wound cleansing – biofilm, low encrustations, fibrin layers, and a low infection rate in the course of the treatment. This contributes to less complications, helps to reduce the wound healing disturbances and shortens the time period for wound closure.

* Prontosan ®