

Information for Clinical Choice

Super Absorbent Dressings

Support Document

Introduction

Information for Clinical Choice (ICC) has been developed to assist Clinicians in the decision-making process when assessing the suitability of a product by providing a clear illustration and description of the features of a range of similar products supplied through NHS Supply Chain.

The criteria provided, in the form of a Product Matrix and Support Document, is the result of a product review, conducted by DHLs Clinical Procurement and Quality Assurance Team with support from clinical stakeholders from across the NHS as part of our assurance process.

The aim, alongside delivering savings back into NHS frontline services, is to ensure that clinical choice remains at the forefront of any product switching decision.

General Wound Care: Super Absorbent Dressings




Super Absorbent Dressings are pad dressings with a highly absorbent hydrophilic core, containing polyacrylate polymer granules designed to manage very high amounts of wound exudate.





The following document contains the core range of Super Absorbent Dressings. It does not include the wider range of dressings which incorporate the use super absorbent granules, which offer additional features such as adhesive borders or enhanced wound contact layers, and are less readily comparable.

The polyacrylate polymer granules can absorb moisture rapidly which is retained within the dressing and away from the wound bed. Super Absorbent Dressings also allow moisture vapour to pass through the dressing and into the external environment, which prevents saturation of the dressing and supports ongoing exudate management over a longer wear time.

The general properties of a Super Absorbent Dressing are often useful in managing wounds to the lower limbs and are indicated for use under compression bandages.

Super-Absorbents Dressings are available in single-sided 'backed' and double sided 'non-backed' option. Clinical feedback suggests that the presence or absence of this backing layer may subtly alter the way in which the dressings manage exudate and how they maintain shape during use.

Backed Super Absorbent Dressings			
Supplier	Absorbest AB	H&R Healthcare LTD BD	Paul Hartmann LTD
Brand	DryMax Blue	Kliniderm Superabsorbent	Zetuvit Plus
MPC	F60093/10	40511701	413710
NPC	EJA290	EJE228	EME046
Description	Backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing sterile 10cm x 10cm	Backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing sterile 10cm x 10cm	Backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing sterile 10cm x 10cm
Picture			
Route	Stocked	Stocked	Stocked
UOI	10	50	10
Sizes Available	10cm x 20cm 20cm x 20cm 20cm x 30cm	7.5cm x 7.5cm 10cm x 20cm 20cm x 20cm 20cm x 30cm 20cm x 40cm	10cm x 20cm 15cm x 20cm 20cm x 25cm 20cm x 40cm
Category (High/Mod)	High	High	High
Free Swell Absorbency as per SMTL 404 (g/cm ²)	1.8	1.72	1.85
Max Recommended (Possible) Wear-time	7 Days	7 Days	5 Days
Able to visualise dressing through packaging	✗	✓	✗
Pad size vs total size clearly displayed (bordered only)	-	✓	-
Displays 'Absorbency category' on inner packaging i.e. High, moderate	✓	✓	✗
Suitable for use under Compression	✓	✓	✓
Contains Latex	✗	✗	The sealed seam of the peel pack contains latex, but the product doesn't

Non - Backed Super Absorbent Dressings				
Supplier	3M United Kingdom PLC	3M United Kingdom PLC	Absorbest AB	Joint Operations Ltd
Brand	Kerramax care	Kerramax care	DryMax Super	AOne
MPC	PRD500-050	PRD500-050-B50	F60073/10	SAN100100RM
NPC	EME045	EME123	EJA293	ELA1391
Description	Non-backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing Sterile 10cm x 10cm	Non-backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing Sterile 10cm x 10cm	Non-backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing Sterile 10cm x 10cm	Non-backed non-adhesive super absorbent dressing Sterile 10cm x 10cm
Picture				
Route	Stocked	Stocked	Stocked	Stocked
UOI	10	50	10	10
Sizes Available	10cm x 22cm 20cm x 22cm 20cm x 30cm	10cm x 22cm 20cm x 22cm 20cm x 30cm 20cm x 30cm (10 dressings)	10cm x 20cm 20cm x 20cm 20cm x 30cm	10cm x 20cm 20cm x 20cm 20cm x 30cm
Category (High/Mod)	High	High	High	High
Free Swell Absorbency as per SMTL 404 (g/cm ²)	15	15	1.8	20.4
Max Recommended (Possible) Wear-time	7 Days	7 Days	7 Days	7 Days
Able to visualise dressing through packaging	✓	✓	✗	✓
Pad size vs total size clearly displayed (bordered only)	✓	✓	-	✓
Displays 'Absorbency category' on inner packaging i.e. High, moderate	✓	✓	✓	✓
Suitable for use under Compression	✓	✓	✓	✓
Contains Latex	The products listed are not known to be made with natural rubber latex.	The products listed are not known to be made with natural rubber latex.	✗	✗

If you have any questions, would like further information, or have feedback to share, please contact:

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