3M | V.A.C.® Therapy

How much do you value your time?

Bridging the gap in wound care

A time study of bridging techniques with 3M™ V.A.C.® Therapy ease-of-use dressings

Bridging the gap in wound care: applying negative pressure wound therapy in challenging locations

Introduction

- Negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) with reticulated open-cell foam (ROCF) has advanced the management of chronic wounds.
- Pressure and diabetic foot ulcers represent chronic wounds that may occur in anatomical locations that are difficult to dress appropriately.
- In managing such wounds, manual bridge construction may be required in order to place the pressure sensing 3M™ SensaT.R.A.C.™ Pad away from the wound site.
  - This is often time-consuming, involving careful planning, cutting, and placement of the drape and ROCF dressings to provide NPWT.
- Specialized dressings have been developed to increase efficiency and ease of use, which will further aid clinicians in the application of NPWT on wounds in difficult locations.

Purpose

- The purpose of this study was to compare the difference in ease of use and application times for three generations of ROCF dressings: the preconstructed ROCF bridge with built-in regulated pressure feedback system (ROCF-XG†), a tear-away, spiralcut ROCF (ROCF-S‡), and standard ROCF (ROCF-G§)

Methods[1]

- In a simulation facility, participants were presented with Seymour II-0910 wound models comprised of simulated sacral pressure ulcers and the following dressings for application: ROCF-XG, ROCF-S, and ROCF-G) (Figure 1 A-C).
- Twenty-four participants were recruited to apply dressings:
  - 12 novice participants (simulating a home healthcare situation) = 3 or fewer prior NPWT dressing applications.
  - 12 expert participants (simulating a clinical situation) = 25 or more prior NPWT dressing applications.
- Order of dressing applications was randomized by blindly drawing dressing names.
- An instructional video was shown to all participants illustrating the bridge technique for each dressing (Figure 2):
  - Novice participants were shown the instructional video twice.
  - Expert participants were shown the same instructional video once.
- Application times were recorded using a stopwatch for each dressing application.

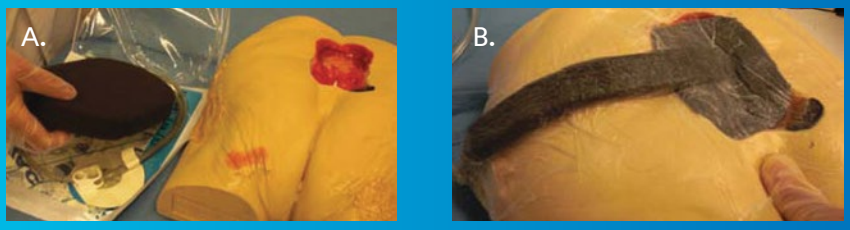

Figure 2. An example of a bridging technique pre (A) and post (B) using ROCF-G dressing over a sacral wound on Seymour II-0910 model.

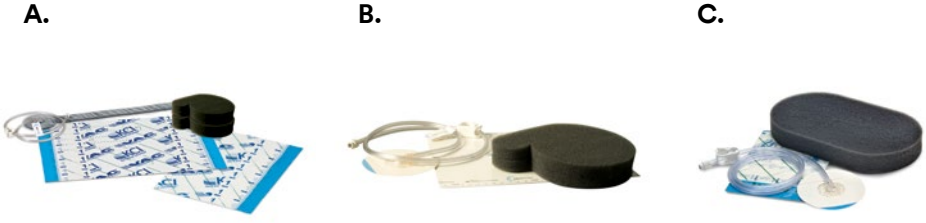

Figure 1: ROCF Dressing Kits applied by participants: **(A)** ROCF-XG **(B)** ROCF-S **(C)** ROCF-g

†3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge XG Dressing, ‡3M™ V.A.C.® Simplace™ Dressing, §3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Dressing - Large

Results

Figure 3.

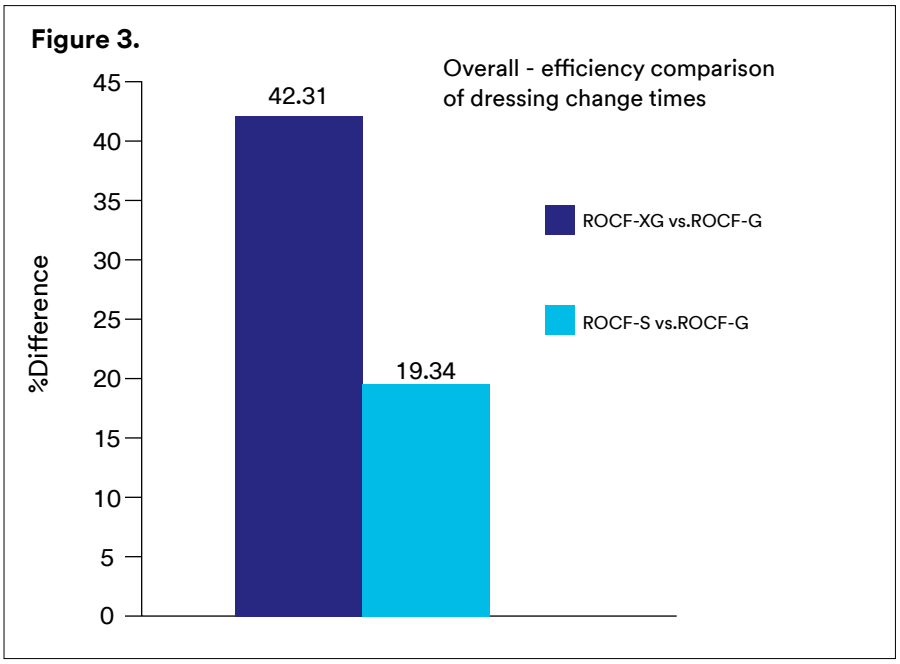

Figure 3. The average application times for ROCF-XG saved participants 42.31% and ROCF-S 19.34% more time when compared to ROCF-G, respectively.

Figure 4.

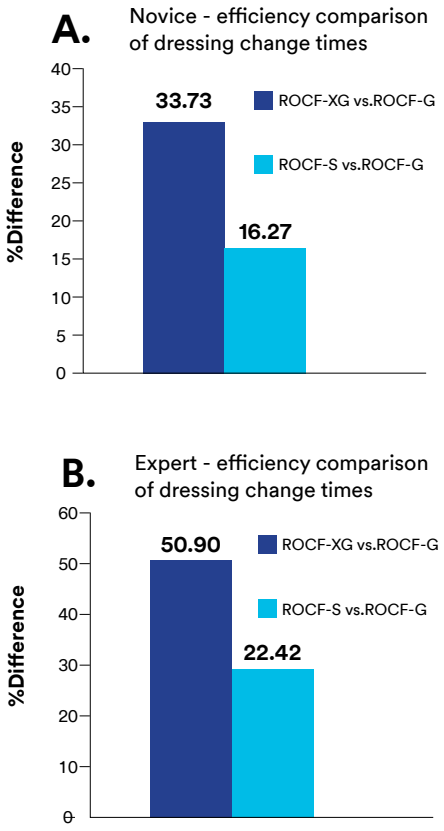

Figure 4. The novice group was able to apply the ROCF-XG dressing 33.73% and ROCF-S 16.27% more efficiently than ROCF-G (A), while the expert group applied the ROCF-XG dressing 50.90% and ROCF-S 22.42% more efficiently than ROCF-G (B).

Table 1. Difference in application steps and times for ROCF-XG, ROCF-S and ROCF-G dressings

Dressings	Approximate number of application steps	Expert application time (min) (n=12)	Novice application time (min) (n =12)	Overall mean application time (min) (n=24)
ROCF-XG	5	5.94	8.31	7.13
ROCF-S	9	7.65	9.93	8.79
ROCF-G	10	12.09	12.54	12.32

Conclusion

- Bridging technique allows clinicians to use NPWT on pressure ulcers, diabetic foot ulcers, and other wounds that require a bridge to offload the SensaT.R.A.C. Pad.
- In this study, dressing application steps and times were greatly reduced due to the pre-constructed materials of 3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge XG Dressing and 3M™ V.A.C.® Simplace™ Dressing (Figure 3 and Table 1).
- Whether novice or expert, there was a definite advantage to utilizing the specialized dressings when looking at application time efficiencies (Figure 4).
- 3M's continued dedication to evolving the dressing platform increases application efficiency, which may lead to time savings for clinicians in all healthcare settings and potential cost savings by reducing clinical staff hours.

3M™ V.A.C.® Therapy ease-of-use dressings

Same V.A.C.® Therapy, but designed with the busy wound care clinician in mind

How much do you value your time?

3M™ V.A.C.® Simplace™ Dressing and 3M™ V.A.C.® Simplace™ Ex Dressings

- Simplifying the NPWT dressing application

3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge Dressing

- Ideal for smaller wounds requiring NPWT and bridging

3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge XG Dressing

- Ideal for medium to large wounds requiring NPWT and bridging

3M™ V.A.C.® Therapy ease of use dressings

Part Number	Description
M8275046/5	3M™ V.A.C.® Simplace™ Ex Dressing Small - 5 Pack
M8275045/5	3M™ V.A.C.® Simplace™ Ex Dressing Medium - 5 Pack
M8275042/10	3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge Dressing - 10 Pack
M8275042/5	3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge Dressing - 5 Pack
M8275044/5	3M™ V.A.C.® Granufoam™ Bridge XG Dressing - 5 Pack

Contact your local 3M Account Representative, call the 3M Health Care Helpline at 1-275-4524, or visit 3M.com/Medical for more information.

Reference:

1) Presented at The Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care, September 9-12, 2011, National Harbor, MD

Note: Specific indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions and safety information exist for these products and therapies. Please consult a clinician and product instructions for use prior to application. Rx only.

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