CASE SERIES
Positive Outcomes Caring for Peristomal Skin Complications

Nickle Petronio RN, BSN, CWON* | Nicole.petronio@alexian.net | Alexian Brothers Wound Healing Center, Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital 953 Reiner Road, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

PROBLEM
These patients presented with peristomal skin complications, resulting from prolonged and frequent appliance changes. Complications included the patients’ quality of life and comfort, in addition to frequent appliance changes. Case 1, a 64 yr-old female, had a colostomy with an ileostomy, and was diagnosed with a peristomal fungal infection, due to colon cancer, developed further peristomal moist associated dermatitis, accompanied by pain and swelling. Case 2, a 63 yr-old male, had a colostomy, and was diagnosed with a fungal infection, due to colon cancer, developed further peristomal moist associated dermatitis, accompanied by pain and swelling. Case 3, a 71 yr-old male, had a colostomy for 1 week, and was diagnosed with a fungal infection and suffered constant peristomal skin burning, itching, and weeping. Case 3, a 69 yr-old male, had a colostomy, and was diagnosed with a fungal infection, due to colon cancer, developed further peristomal moist associated dermatitis, accompanied by pain and swelling. Case 4, a 70 yr-old male, had a colostomy, and was diagnosed with a fungal infection, due to colon cancer, developed further peristomal moist associated dermatitis, accompanied by pain and swelling.

CURRENT CLINICAL APPROACH
Following the facility's protocol, all peristomal skin was prepared for pouch application. Polymeric membrane dressings were applied he was able to go out, without any problems. Case 1's skin healed in 6 weeks. Case 2's skin healed in 1 week.

PATIENT OUTCOMES
*10.0cm x 10.0cm c 0.1cm
*100% Granulated peristomal skin
*Drainage moderate
*Erythema, inflammation, and edema of peristomal skin

Comparison of pouch changes with past management and polymeric membrane dressings

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Ongoing expenses saved were 78% savings, no ongoing expenses.

Note: All healed at 6 months.

*PolyMem® wound dressings are made by Ferris Mfg. Corp., Burr Ridge, IL 60527 USA, 800 PolyMem (765-9636)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

CONCLUSIONS
Polymeric membrane dressings not only healed the peristomal skin but also increased the quality of life for the patients’ use. All 3 individuals experienced improved quality of life. Case 1 and Case 3 were no longer home bound. Additionally, the use of polymeric membrane dressings saved both time and supply costs.

OBJECTIVES
1. Discuss how polymeric membrane dressings provide an optimal wound healing environment and quickly resolve peristomal skin complications.
2. When decreasing or eliminating wound pain is a goal, consider the benefits of using polymeric membrane dressings, which are non-adherent and can inhibit the necrotic receptor.
3. Consider the use of polymeric membrane dressings to save costs of supplies and time.
4. Discuss how polymeric membrane dressings have improved the quality of life of the patients.

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