

## AQUACEL

Absorbent Hydrofiber

Procure No. 53704818



### **DESCRIPTION**

Aquacel is a primary wound dressing made from sodium carboxymethylcellulose. The dressing is a soft, sterile, non-woven dressing. This highly absorbent dressing conforms to the wound, absorbs wound fluid and creates a soft gel. It maintains a moist environment which supports the body's healing process and aids in autolytic debridement without damaging newly formed tissue.

### **INDICATIONS**

- Leg ulcers, Diabetic ulcers
- Pressure ulcers (Stage II-IV)
- Surgical wounds
- Partial thickness burns
- Traumatic wounds

### **CONTRA-INDICATIONS**

- Aquacel should not be used for patients that have a known sensitivity to the dressing or any of its components

### **PRECAUTIONS**

- If you have difficulty removing the dressing, the dressing should be fully saturated with sterile saline and allowed to soak into the dressing

### **DIRECTIONS FOR USE**

1. Aquacel should overlap 1 cm onto the intact skin surrounding the wound since it will shrink as it absorbs wound fluid and then cover with a sterile secondary dressing.
2. On lightly exuding wounds it is possible to apply the dressing then lightly moisten the area directly over the wound with Normal Saline. This is then covered with a secondary dressing.
3. Deeper cavity wounds or sinuses may be dressed with Aquacel Ribbon, which should be lightly packed into the wound. Leave at least 2.5 cm outside the wound for easy retrieval. Only pack wounds to 80%, as Aquacel will expand to fill the wound space on contact with wound fluid.
4. If residual dressing is left in the wound upon packing removal, irrigate with Normal Saline to flush out the remaining dressing.
5. If the dressing dries and is hard to remove, moisten with sterile saline until it lifts easily. It may take several minutes for it to gel.
6. The vertical absorption properties of Aquacel will help to maintain the moist area over the wound only and reduce the risk of periwound maceration.

### **FREQUENCY OF CHANGE**

- Dependent on the nature of the wound and the amount of exudate
- If applied to heavily exuding wounds may need replacing daily initially
- As healing progresses and the amount of exudate decreases, the change interval may extend up to 7 days
- For 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns, Aquacel may be left in place for up to 14 days provided there is no clinical evidence of infection, as the burn re-epithelializes, the Aquacel will remove easily

Adapted from Convatec Product Information 2012