Skin/Wound Issues
Why Things Go Wrong

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Skin Issue Topics

- Incontinence
- Leakage from tubes
- Products available to protect the skin
- Management of tube leakage
Incontinence Associated Dermatitis (IAD)

- Definition: an inflammation of the skin in the genital, buttock or inner thigh areas that occurs when urine and/or stool comes in contact with the skin.
Incontinence Associated Dermatitis

Skin can be:

- painful
- weepy
- erythematous (redness)
- edema (raised or swollen)
- itchy
The most challenging skin issues result from diarrhea or frequent stooling

- Some common causes of diarrhea are:
  - Hyperosmolar or rapidly delivered tube feeds
  - Atrophy of the intestinal lining
  - Ischemic bowel
  - Short bowel syndrome
  - Pseudomembranous colitis
  - Infection
Treating Incontinence Associated Dermatitis may include medical and/or surgical intervention based on the cause.

The role of the CWOCN is to prevent skin breakdown by minimizing exposure to stool or urine and providing an environment that maintains skin integrity and promotes wound healing to prevent infection.
A key to preventing skin breakdown is a defined skin care regimen that includes gently cleansing, moisturizing and applying a skin protectant or barrier ointment.
Cleansing with soap and water is very appropriate with a well functioning tube or with patients who are diapered and not experiencing any skin issues.

If there are skin issues, then cleansing with a perineal cleanser is beneficial. These products have a pH range that reflects the acid mantle of healthy skin (pH between 5.4-5.9). A higher skin pH enhances the risk of skin colonization by microorganisms.

Cleansers emulsify dirt and microorganisms on the skin surface so that they can be easily removed.

No rinse cleansers combine detergents and surfactants to loosen and remove dirt or irritants and many contain a moisturizer.
Skin Protectants

- This category of product aims to prevent skin breakdown by providing an impermeable or semipermeable barrier on the skin, thus preventing penetration of water and irritants found in stool and urine.

- Skin protectants include petrolatum based ointments, dimethicone-based ointments, zinc oxide creams and oils.
Calmoseptine® Ointment
MULTIPURPOSE MOISTURE BARRIER

LONG-LASTING PROTECTION
HELPED HEAL SKIN IRRITATIONS FROM MOISTURE OR CAUSTIC DRAINAGE

TEMPORARILY RELIEVES DISCOMFORT & ITCHING

COST EFFECTIVE

Calmoseptine, Inc.
16602 Burke Lane • Huntington Beach, California 92647 • U.S.A.
(800) 800-3405 • FAX (714) 840-9810
www.calmoseptine.com
Triad™
Hydrophilic
Wound Dressing
Panne ment Hydrophile

Net Wt. 6 oz. (170 g)

Ingredients: petrolatum, sterculia urens gum, zinc oxide, mineral oil

Ingredients: pétrolatum, gomme de sterculia, oxyde de zinc, huile minérale

Coloplast
Skin Protectant Paste

ILEX® SKIN PROTECTANT PASTE
Patented Worldwide
NDC# 8212-4271-81
Manufactured for MBT
Medical BioTech Technologies Inc., Groton, MA 01984

5 in 1 Hydroactive
• Seals out wetness
• Protects Chafed Skin
• Contains No Alcohol or Latex
• Not absorbed systemically
• Interacts with moist wounds
• Hospital recommended

NET WT. 2 oz. (60 g)
The same products to protect and treat skin irritation from stool or urine are used for irritation around a gastrostomy or jejunostomy tube.

The management of unstable G or J tubes that leak effluent around the insertion site present significant challenges to the Doctors, nurses, family members, and the patient.
Problems with Tubes

- Dislodgement
- Migration
- Clogging
- Stomal enlargement
- Leakage
- Skin breakdown
- Hypergranulation tissue
Clear Peg Tube
The cause of the leakage must be identified and eliminated if possible. Site leakage and subsequent skin breakdown is the most common complication of G tubes.
Monlycke Mepilex Foam Dressing
Mepilex Foam Dressing
Polymem Dressing
Hypergranulation tissue is tissue that forms around the insertion site of the tube, it’s appearance is beefy red and forms a spongy mat above the skin level.

Excessive tube motion can cause or increase the granulation tissue formation.

A common cause of leakage around the tube is hypergranulation tissue formation.

The tissue can bleed easily and secrete a yellowish exudate.

Treatment includes silver nitrate (cauterizing the hypergranulation tissue) and/or improved securing of the tube.
Hypergranulation Tissue
Coloplast Protective Sheet
Gastric Stoma

- The stomach lining can actually migrate up the tube and mature at the skin level as a gastric stoma.
- This situation can cause major leakage problems and challenges stabilizing the tube.
- Treatment options include: tube holders, pouching of tube site with or without the tube in place, surgical, cauterization or surgical relocation of the tube.
Gastric Stoma
Gastric Stoma
Granuloma
Hollister Tube Holder
Hollister Tube Holder
Convatec Flexi Trak Tube Holder
Enlarged Insertion Site with Leakage Issues
Severe Skin Irritation from Leakage
Aquacel Ag (Silver)
Pouching a Tube Site
Pouching the Leaking Site and Threading the Tube through a Tube Holder
Conclusion

- There are many over the counter ointments and skin protectants available.
- Reimbursement of many of the products mentioned in this presentation is dependent on your insurance and home care coverage.
- Samples are available in the back of the room from calmoseptine, coloplast and hollister.
- Special thanks to Laurie Reyen and Valerie De Luca.