Wound Care, Wound Nursing Tissue Repair & Regenerative Medicine

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Caroline Schober-Flores

Children's Hospital, USA

Epidermolysis bullosa: The challenges of wound healing in a chronic wound

Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) is a genetic skin disorder characterized by skin fragility resulting in blisters and erosions. Wound care for individuals diagnosed with EB is aimed at wound healing and injury prevention. Although some of these individuals' wounds heal and progress through the phases of healing in a timely manner, others become chronic and remain in a non-healing state. Those chronic wounds often have multiple bacterial complications including a high bacterial bio-burden, infections, multi-organism resistance to antibiotics, and the eventual development of a bio-film covering the wound. It is those chronic wounds that are covered with a bio-film that are the most challenging to deal with this patient population. Many of the wound products currently available only minimally affect an adherent bio-film; therefore, an alternative method of bio-film reduction was researched. This lecture will discuss a wound product called Plurogel which has been shown to be an effective method to painlessly reduce biofilm adherence for this patient population. In addition, the use of an advanced wound called Hyalomatrix will also be presented as method re-stimulate wound healing in a chronic wound, stalled in healing. The results with the use of these products have been very promising in re-stimulating wound healing in a chronic wound for a patient diagnosed with Epidermolysis bullosa.

Biography

Caroline Schober-Flores RN, BSN, CWS works at the Children's Hosptial Colorado which is a regional Epidermolysis Center. She works within a multidisciplinary team that addresses the complex care that these individuals require. She has been a clinical wound specialist since 2005 which is her primary role in caring for these patients. Caroline educates patients, families and other healthcare providers on the complex care that these individuals require, both locally and nationally. She has published 7 articles with her most recent publication done in 2014, entitled Epidermolysis-The Challenges of a Chronic Wound in the JDNA journal.

caroline carol.schober-flores@childrenscolorado.org

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