

Treatment of diabetic foot ulcers with necrotizing fasciitis in the lower leg using the STAGE principles

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Abstract

Diabetic foot ulcers (DFUs) are serious complications of diabetes. Diabetic patients have a 15-25% chance of developing foot ulcers in their lifetime. Neuropathy and poor blood circulation caused by hyperglycemia increase the probability of necrotizing fasciitis (NF) in the legs. NF is a serious, rapidly progressive and critical soft tissue infectious disease that is characterized by progressive necrosis involving deep, superficial fascia and subcutaneous tissue. The STAGE principles guide surgical intervention in the treatment of DFU wounds and emphasizes that “based on anatomical layers, the management focuses on blood supply and includes layer-by-layer incision to the infected area, maintenance of effective wound drainage, and step-by-step treatment of the wound”. Resulting in healing were fully treated under the STAGE principles and by a team that specialized in preservation of the lower extremities in DFU patients. Sufficient drainage and debridement of NF are key measures for the treatment of this disease. When necessary, opening the muscle space to remove necrotic fascial tissue and keeping the wound open and reducing pressure from the abscess on normal tissue can minimize damage to normal tissue. The STAGE principles have certain guiding significance for the treatment of this disease. They can provide a treatment management plan for local wounds and eliminate the limitations of single treatment approaches.

Biography

Dr. Sun graduated from Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China. She is currently a PhD student at Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Her research direction is the treatment of diabetic foot and chronic refractory wounds, and has published 12 related papers.



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