

Literature review

Impact of an antimicrobial dressing in reducing surgical site infections in cardiac surgery patients

Gaspard F, Brassard P, Alam T, et al. *Wounds*. 2013 Jul;25(7):178-185.

Summary: A non-randomized, prospective cohort study was conducted at McGill University Health Center to evaluate the impact of an antimicrobial dressing (Telfa™ AMD) on surgical site infection rates associated with cardiac surgery. Outcomes for 1,399 patients who underwent cardiac surgical procedures, including coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) and/or valve replacement and/or repair via median sternotomy, were included in the analysis. The PHMB group demonstrated significant reductions in the CABG only surgical site infection rate (7.1% PHMB group, 11.1% control group, $P=0.03$), overall infection rate (5.8% PHMB group, 9.8% control group, $P<0.05$) and leg infection rate (4.7% PHMB group, 10.4% control group, $P<0.05$). Exposure to the antimicrobial dressing significantly reduced infection after adjusting for differences in all other characteristics in the comparison groups (OR 0.58 [0.38–0.89]). The authors concluded that the antimicrobial dressing had a better overall efficacy, particularly for leg infections, to prevent surgical site infections compared to the plain dressings.

Clinical outcomes: AMD significantly reduced surgical site infection



42% overall reduction*

59% reduction in leg infection rates*

In this study, the antimicrobial dressing had a better overall efficacy, particularly for leg infections, to prevent surgical site infections compared to the plain dressings used.

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* Statistically significant.

Reference
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About this study



Design

Non-randomized prospective cohort



Intervention

PHMB dressing (Telfa™ AMD)



Study details

- McGill University Health Center
- No practice or personnel changes
- 1-year follow-up



Number of participants

1,399 patients

treated per protocol

1,658 patients

intended to treat



Patient profile

Cardiac surgical patients

- Coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG)
- Valve replacement
- Median sternotomy