



EUROPEAN TISSUE REPAIR SOCIETY

# *Innovation in tissue repair: from the lab to the patient*

*Pisa, 13-16 September 2006 (Italy)*  
[www.etr2006pisa.com](http://www.etr2006pisa.com)



## *16<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting* **FINAL PROGRAMME & ABSTRACT BOOK**

Under the patronage of



University of Pisa



Azienda Ospedaliera  
Universitaria Pisana



Arpa Foundation



Felici Editore



## COMPARATIVE EFFECTS OF POLYHYDRATED IONOGENS/ HONEY BASED DRESSINGS AND SILVER BASED DRESSINGS ON THE HEALING OF VENOUS LEG ULCERS.

TANJA PLANINSEK RUCIGAJ

Dermatovenerological clinic, Ljubljana

Comparative effects of polyhydrated ionogens/honey based dressings and silver based dressings on the healing of venous leg ulcers a randomized clinical study Tanja Planinsek Rucigaj, Dermatovenerological clinic, Clinical centre, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Introduction: Woundhealing is contingent upon three major factors: bacterial colonization, production of reactive oxygen species, and the balance between matrix metalloproteases. Fenolic rich honey with its anti-oxidant properties is responsible for cleaning and healing wounds; the synthetic blend of metal ions restores MMP/TIMP balance, inducing epithelialisation. Silver has known anti-bacterial properties and is widely used to control bacterial colonization. This study attempts to compare clinical effects of two types of dressings.

**Methods:** Patients with sixty venous leg ulcers (ABPI 0,8 and higher) were included in stage B1, B2, B3, C1, C2, C3 (Fallanga V. classification of wound bed). Exclusion criteria were severe disease (cardiac decompensation, rheumatoid arthritis, uncontrollable hypertension, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, carcinoma) and immobility. After approval of the national ethical committee, patients were randomly positioned into one of two groups by closed numbered envelopes and subsequently observed for 8 weeks or less (if ulcers were healed). Ulcers in group 1 were treated with honey based dressings (MelMax\*\*) and the ulcers in group 2 were treated with silver based dressings. Compression with long-stretch bandages was used on every patient. Control visits were after 2, 4 and finally 8 weeks when the study was closed. At the beginning and end of the study ulcer areas were drawn onto film dressing and precisely measured by using a digital planimeter\*\*. Ulcers were classified into Falanga's groups.

**Results and discussion:** Ulcers treated with honey based dressings show similar or faster cleaning and healing than ulcers treated with silver based dressings (Table 1).

\*Dermagenics \*\*Placom KP-90N(Japan)