

ALLEVYN[®] LIFE Sacrum Foam Dressing was as effective as Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum, and provided cost savings, when used with standard preventive care to help reduce sacral pressure injuries (PIs) in patients on an intensive care unit (ICU)

Number of dressings per patient and product integrity were similar with both dressings



Study overview

- A randomised, cluster-controlled clinical trial comparing the incidence of new sacral PIs (stage 1 or greater) with ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum Dressing (n=129) and Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum dressing (n=173), used in addition to standard preventive care, in critically ill ICU patients at one hospital in Australia
- Patients who were able to have a dressing applied for more than 24 hours without repeated dislodgement or soiling (three times or more) were enrolled within 48 hours of admission to the ICU
- Patients were allocated to each dressing type in three-month alternating clusters (three cycles per product) to minimise the potential impact of seasonal variation on patient admissions



Key results

- 2 of 129 (1.6%) patients developed new sacral PIs with ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum Dressing compared with 3 of 173 patients (1.7%) receiving Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum dressing
 - The incidence was low in both groups (Figure)
- None of the nine patients with a PI on another body site at ICU admission developed a sacral PI during the study in either group
- Number of dressings per patient per day was 0.5 in both groups
- Daily dressing cost per patient was significantly lower with ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum Dressing than with Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum dressing (AUD \$5.15 vs \$7.21; p<0.001; Figure)
 - Total dressing cost per patient was also reduced

0.44

sacral PIs per 100 dressing days
with both dressings



29%

Daily dressing cost per patient was AUD \$2.06 lower with ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum Dressing than Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum (p<0.001)

Figure. Incidence of new sacral PIs and daily cost per patient with ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum Dressing and Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum



Conclusion

When used with standard preventive care, ALLEVYN LIFE Sacrum Dressing was as effective as Mepilex[™] Border Sacrum at helping to reduce the incidence of sacral PIs and provided significant cost savings in critically ill ICU patients.

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Evidence in focus (continued)



Considerations

- Standard preventive care included repositioning every 2–4 hours, specialised low air-loss beds and use of adjunct repositioning and turning aids
- ICU nursing staff were educated on PI assessment by the study investigator and a clinical nurse consultant prior to the study and were supported throughout the study by the nurse consultant
- Cost effectiveness was defined as the average cost of dressings per patient in each group divided by the proportion of patients without a sacral PI (cost of ALLEVYN® LIFE Sacrum Dressing was AUD \$10.29 and Mepilex™ Border Sacrum was AUD \$14.42)



Study citation

*Stankiewicz M, Gordon J, Dulhunty JM, Brown W, Pollock H, Barker-Gregory N. A cluster-controlled clinical trial of two prophylactic silicone sacral dressings to prevent sacral pressure injuries in critically ill patients. *Wound Practice and Research*. 2019;27:21–26.

Available at: [Wound Practice and Research](#)

For detailed product information, including indications for use, contraindications, precautions and warnings, please consult the product's applicable Instructions for Use (IFU) prior to use.