

**Algosteril** (Smith & Nephew Healthcare Ltd) Rope dressing 2g= £3.93, dressing 10cm × 10cm= £2.18, 10cm × 20cm= £3.68, 5cm × 5cm= £0.95

#### **Biatain Alginate**

Alginate and carboxymethylcellulose dressing, highly absorbent, gelling dressing

**Biatain Alginate dressing** (Coloplast Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £2.40, 15cm × 15cm= £4.54, 44cm= £2.83, 5cm × 5cm= £1.01

#### **Cutimed Alginate**

Calcium sodium alginate dressing

**Cutimed Alginate dressing** (BSN medical Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £1.62, 10cm × 20cm= £3.05, 5cm × 5cm= £0.77

#### **Kaltostat**

Calcium alginate fibre, non-woven

**Kaltostat dressing** (ConvaTec Ltd) 10cm × 20cm= £4.23, 15cm × 25cm= £7.28, 2g= £3.97, 5cm × 5cm= £0.99, 7.5cm × 12cm= £2.16

#### **Kendall**

Calcium alginate dressing

**Kendall Calcium Alginate** (H & R Healthcare Ltd) Rope dressing 30cm= £2.89, 61cm= £5.07, 91cm= £5.46, dressing 10cm × 10cm= £1.52, 10cm × 14cm= £2.45, 10cm × 20cm= £2.98, 15cm × 25cm= £5.25, 30cm × 61cm= £27.56, 5cm × 5cm= £0.72

#### **Kendall Plus**

Calcium alginate dressing

**Kendall** (H & R Healthcare Ltd) Foam Plus dressing 10cm × 10cm square= £1.48

#### **Melgisorb**

Calcium sodium alginate fibre, highly absorbent, gelling dressing, non-woven

**Melgisorb** (Molnlycke Health Care Ltd) Cavity dressing 2.2cm × 32cm= £3.55, dressing 10cm × 10cm= £1.88, 10cm × 20cm= £3.52, 5cm × 5cm= £0.90

#### **Sorbalgon**

Calcium alginate dressing

**Sorbalgon** (Paul Hartmann Ltd) T dressing 2g= £3.60, dressing 10cm × 10cm= £1.76, 5cm × 5cm= £0.84

#### **Sorbsan Flat**

Calcium alginate fibre, highly absorbent, flat non-woven pads

**Sorbsan Flat dressing** (Aspen Medical Europe Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £1.72, 10cm × 20cm= £3.22, 5cm × 5cm= £0.82

#### **Sorbsan Plus**

Alginate dressing bonded to a secondary absorbent viscose pad

**Sorbsan Plus dressing** (Aspen Medical Europe Ltd) 10cm × 15cm= £3.12, 10cm × 20cm= £3.98, 15cm × 20cm= £5.53, 7.5cm × 10cm= £1.77

#### **Sorbsan Ribbon**

Alginate dressing bonded to a secondary absorbent viscose pad

**Sorbsan** (Aspen Medical Europe Ltd) Ribbon dressing 40cm= £2.06

#### **Sorbsan Surgical Packing**

Alginate dressing bonded to a secondary absorbent viscose pad

**Sorbsan** (Aspen Medical Europe Ltd) Packing dressing 2g= £3.50

#### **Suprasorb A**

Calcium alginate dressing

**Suprasorb A** (Lohmann & Rauscher) alginate dressing 10cm × 10cm= £1.28, 5cm × 5cm= £0.65, cavity dressing 2g= £2.37

#### **Tegaderm Alginate**

Calcium alginate dressing

**Tegaderm Alginate dressing** (3M Health Care Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £1.75, 2cm × 30.4cm= £2.92, 5cm × 5cm= £0.83

#### **Urgosorb**

Alginate and carboxymethylcellulose dressing without adhesive border

**Urgosorb** (Urgo Ltd) Pad dressing 10cm × 10cm= £2.19, 10cm × 20cm= £4.01, 5cm × 5cm= £0.91, Rope dressing 30cm= £2.87

## Capillary-acting dressings

### **Vacutex**

Low-adherent dressing consisting of two external polyester wound contact layers with central wicking polyester/cotton mix absorbent layer

**Vacutex dressing** (Haddenham Healthcare Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £1.70, 10cm × 15cm= £2.29, 10cm × 20cm= £2.75, 5cm × 5cm= £0.96

### **Odour absorbent dressings**

Dressings containing activated charcoal are used to absorb odour from wounds. The underlying cause of wound odour should be identified. Wound odour is most effectively reduced by debridement of slough, reduction in bacterial levels, and frequent dressing changes. Fungating wounds and chronic infected wounds produce high volumes of exudate which can reduce the effectiveness of odour absorbent dressings. Many odour absorbent dressings are intended for use in combination with other dressings; odour absorbent dressings with a suitable wound contact layer can be used as a primary dressing.

### **Askina Carbosorb**

Activated charcoal and non-woven viscose rayon dressing

**Askina Carbosorb dressing** (B.Braun Medical Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £3.00, 10cm × 20cm= £5.79

### **CarboFLEX**

Dressing in 5 layers: wound-facing absorbent layer containing alginate and hydrocolloid; water-resistant second layer; third layer containing activated charcoal; non-woven absorbent fourth layer; water-resistant backing layer

**CarboFlex dressing** (ConvaTec Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £3.33, 15cm × 20cm= £7.58, 8cm × 15cm oval= £4.00

### **Carbopad VC**

Activated charcoal non-absorbent dressing

**Carbopad VC dressing** (Synergy Health (UK) Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £1.62, 10cm × 20cm= £2.19

### **CliniSorb Odour Control Dressings**

Activated charcoal cloth enclosed in viscose rayon with outer polyamide coating

**CliniSorb dressing** (CliniMed Ltd) 10cm × 10cm= £1.96, 10cm × 20cm= £2.61, 15cm × 25cm= £4.20

## Antimicrobial dressings

Spreading infection at the wound site requires treatment with systemic antibacterials. For local wound infection, a topical antimicrobial dressing can be used to reduce the level of bacteria at the wound surface but will not eliminate a spreading infection. Some dressings are designed to release the antimicrobial into the wound, others act upon the bacteria after absorption from the wound. The amount of exudate present and the level of infection should be taken into account when selecting an antimicrobial dressing. Medical grade honey has antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory properties. Dressings impregnated with iodine can be used to treat clinically infected wounds. Dressings containing silver should be used only when clinical signs or symptoms of infection are present. Dressings containing other antimicrobials such as polihexanide (polyhexamethylene biguanide) or dialkylcarbamoyl chloride are available for use on infected wounds. Although hypersensitivity is unlikely with chlorhexidine impregnated tulle dressing, the antibacterial efficacy of these dressings has not been established.

### **Honey dressings**

Medical grade honey has antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory properties and can be used for acute or chronic wounds. Medical grade honey has osmotic properties, producing an environment that promotes autolytic debridement; it can help control wound malodour. Honey dressings should not be used on patients with extreme sensitivity to honey, bee stings or bee products. Patients with diabetes should be monitored for changes in blood-glucose concentrations during treatment with topical honey or honey-impregnated dressings.