The use of Biobrane for partial thickness burns: A 5 year review of outcomes at Wellington Regional Burn Unit

J Papali'i-Curtin, C Adams, S Deo, Wellington Regional Burn Unit, Hutt Hospital, Wellington, New Zealand

Introduction

Biobrane is a bio-synthetic skin substitute. One of the indications is superficial to mid dermal burns. Some of the advantages of biobrane when compared to other products include the need for fewer dressing changes, less pain, simple care and shorter hospital stays. The main concerns with the product are with potential risk of infection and product cost.

Wellington Regional Burn unit protocol for biobrane use in superficial-mid dermal burns

- Application within 24hours
- Sterile scrub + correct application
- 1-3 doses of prophylactic antibiotics
- No secondary antibacterial dressing
- Wound check at 24-48 hours

Method

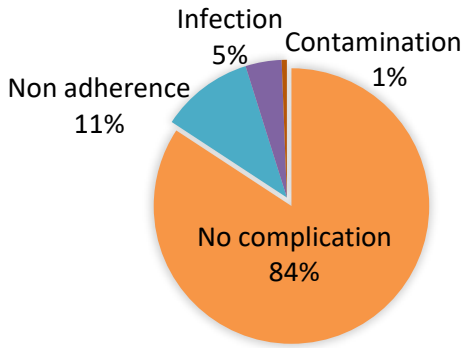
We conducted 5 year retrospective audit from 2012 to 2016. All patients who had biobrane applied to an acute burn were included.

Results

83% of patients were children and 64% male.

Demographics

Complications



Interventions required for complications

Complication	Grafting	Debridement only	Non operative	Hypertrophic scarring
Infection (7)	3	1	3	1
Non-adherence (18)	4	0	12	3
Contamination (1)	0	0	0	0

Discussion

Our infection rate was 5%. Our non adherence rate was 11% most of which was partial nonadherence. 6% of our patients required a further operative intervention for nonadherence or infection. 5% of patients developed hypertrophic scarring. Of the patients who did not have complications, none required a return to theatre for dressing changes making biobrane a cost effective option. We found Biobrane to be safe and effective in superficial to mid dermal, non-contaminated burns.