

Burn dressing information

Duoderm™

Duoderm is an adhesive hydrocolloid dressing. It comes in thick and thin versions and is often used as a secondary dressing for burn wounds in combination with Acticoat (silver) dressings. Duoderm helps absorb wound fluid while keeping the Acticoat dressings moist.



Once Duoderm has absorbed as much fluid as it can hold, there may be some leaking of fluid or an odour. If this occurs, please contact PCH Ward 1B for advice and to arrange a follow up appointment.

Duoderm may also be used after a burn wound has completely healed to soften scars.

How frequently is a Duoderm dressing changed?

Your child's Duoderm dressing will be changed every time their Acticoat dressing is changed. The frequency of dressing changes will be determined by your child's doctor or nurse. Duoderm dressings must not be left in place longer than three days.

How do I care for the Duoderm dressing?

The dressing must be kept clean, dry and in place as directed by your child's doctor or nurse. If the dressing is accidentally removed or becomes wet or dirty, please phone PCH Ward 1B as soon as possible to organise a new dressing.

What do I need to look for?

Infections in burns patients can be very serious and must be treated urgently. Observe your child and the wound/dressing site frequently. Phone PCH Ward 1B on 6456 3630 immediately if any of the following occur:

- a temperature below 35.5°C or above 38°C
- a rash, increased pain, redness or swelling at the wound site
- changes in behaviour such as poor appetite, sleep disturbances, lethargy (quiet, lack of energy or flat mood)
- excessive ooze (fluid) from the wound, although a small amount of ooze is often expected
- offensive odour.

