When ITD Hits Home: Best Practices Tips for using a Moisture-Wicking Textile with Silver* for Intertriginous Dermatitis

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Background:

Intertriginous Dermatitis (ITD) also known as Intertrigo is one of the four most common forms of Moisture-Associated Skin Damage. 1 ITD is defined as inflammation resulting from moisture trapped in skin folds subject to friction. 2 Symptoms include erythema, inflammation, maceration, erosion/denudation, odor and pain of the skin inside and adjacent to skin folds. 2,3 Major risk factors include hyperhidrosis; obesity, especially with pendulous breasts; deep skin folds; immobility and diabetes mellitus. 2 All risk factors are exacerbated by hot, humid conditions. 2 The most common fungal organisms in ITD are Candida. 2 However, a recent study found Candida is not the most prevalent organism found in skin folds. 4 Standard treatments often used for ITD, such as drying agents, barrier creams, topical antifungals and absorptive materials, may be ineffective in some patients. 2 Moisture-wicking textile with silver have been shown to relieve the signs and symptoms of ITD within a five-day period. 5

Case discussion:

After residing in an Assisted Living Facility in Texas for two years, it was time to move my 80-year old family member closer to me. She traveled with my husband and I on a two day, 1000 miles road trip to her new home in Florida. Her medical history includes obesity (5’3”, 172 pounds, BMI 30.5), bilateral mastectomy, uncontrolled diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and dementia. Following her first morning shower, I noticed a mild case of ITD (erythema and pain) within her right axilla. This necessitated a further assessment of all skin folds. Under her large pannus revealed a severe case of ITD (erythema, maceration, satellite lesions, denuded skin at the base of the fold, odor and pain). A moisture-wicking textile with silver was applied to both areas to manage the complications associated with skin folds: moisture, friction and fungal / bacterial organisms.

Best practice tips

Prevent further trauma

- Clean painful denuded areas with a no-rinse, self sudsing disposable wash cloth to prevent further trauma. Carefully dry with a soft towel.
- Prevent dislodgement during routine activities of daily living. The moisture-wicking textile was originally positioned to allow 2” plus to hang below the pannus. During toileting the moisture-wicking textile was inadvertently removed. Moisture-wicking textile was repositioned to allow 2” plus to be exposed on either size of the pannus.

Prevent further trauma

Secure without causing further trauma to the skin

- Prevent dislodgement during routine activities of daily living The moisture-wicking textile was originally positioned to allow 2” plus to hang below the pannus. During toileting the moisture-wicking textile was inadvertently removed. Moisture-wicking textile was repositioned to allow 2” plus to be exposed on either size of the pannus.
- The moisture-wicking textile was originally secured with paper tape. Removing the paper tape caused a medical adhesive related skin injury. Next, the textile was secured with silicone tape. Due to excessive moisture on the skin it lifted. Returned to using paper tape in conjunction with an adhesive remover spray to help release the tape from the skin.

Conclusion:

The moisture-wicking textile with silver quickly and effectively resolved both cases of intertriginous dermatitis (ITD).
- At day 2 the erythema and pain in the axilla was 100% resolved.
- At day 5 the erythema, satellite lesions, odor, denuded area and pain under the pannus was 100% resolved.

Day 1

Severe case of ITD (erythema, maceration, satellite lesions, denuded skin at the base of the fold, odor and pain).

Day 2

Mild case of ITD (erythema and pain).

Day 3

Erythema, maceration, satellite lesions and odor had resolved. Denuded area partially resolved.

Day 4

Erythema, maceration, satellite lesions and odor had resolved. Denuded area partially resolved.

Day 5

100% resolved.

*InterDry® is a skin protectant for the management of skin folds and other skin-to-skin contact areas. It reduces microbial colonization in the fabric. The silver-activated polymer transport moisture to keep the skin dry while the antimicrobial silver ions inactivate microorganisms on contact. In vitro studies and clinical testing have demonstrated the device’s antimicrobial activity against a broad range of microbes, including Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, yeasts and fungi. For further information, call Coloplast Corp. at 1-800-533-0464 and/or consult the company website at www.coloplast.us


100% resolved