**Benefits of wound exudate.**

In healing wounds, exudate supports healing and a moist wound environment. The main role of exudate is in facilitating the diffusion of vital healing factors (e.g. growth and immune factors) and the migration of cells across the wound bed.\(^1\) It also promotes cell proliferation, provides nutrition for cell metabolism and aids autolysis of necrotic or damaged tissue.\(^2\)

**Rate of exudate production.**

Moist wound healing (MWH) is necessary for optimal healing. As wounds heal, usually the exudate production decreases\(^3\) however over or under production of exudate can adversely affect the ability to heal.

**Exudate sometimes delays healing.**

In non-healing wounds exudate levels may be difficult to manage and may lead to the wound slowing down or even prevent cell proliferation; interfere with growth factor availability or contain elevated levels of MMPs\(^1,4,5\). This can lead to damage to the wound bed, degrading of extracellular matrix and peri-wound problems.

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# Exudate management with Kliniderm

Assess the patient and wound to identify any local, systemic, wound-related, environmental or psychosocial factors.

## Assess the volume of exudate and the wound bed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dry</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Excessive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wound is dry</td>
<td>Wound is dry</td>
<td>Small amounts of fluid are visible when the dressing is removed</td>
<td>Dressing may be extensively soiled</td>
<td>Excessive fluid is visible</td>
<td>Excessive fluid is visible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No visible moisture</td>
<td>No peri-wound maceration</td>
<td>Possible peri-wound skin maceration/excoriation</td>
<td>Primary dressing is wet and there may be strikethrough on secondary dressing</td>
<td>Possible peri-wound skin maceration/excoriation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Management aims

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dry</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Excessive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase level of moisture</td>
<td>Increase level of moisture</td>
<td>Maintain moist wound healing</td>
<td>Maintain peri-wound skin</td>
<td>Reduce and manage the level of moisture</td>
<td>Maintain peri-wound skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donate fluid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Dressing choice

- **kliniderm® foam silicone lite**
- **kliniderm® foam silicone**
- **kliniderm® superabsorbent**
- **kliniderm® silicone wound contact layer**

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*May be used under compression
**Use with appropriate secondary dressing

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