

Shock Wave Therapy in Perineal Chronic Pressure Sore – Case Report

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Device and producing company:

Reflectron, HMT

Introduction:

Studies suggest that ESWT is highly effective in treating patients with several types of skin lesions through antibacterial effects, promoting neovascularization and possible tissue regeneration. The aim of this study was to evaluate the results of applying ESWT to a perineal chronic skin lesion of a patient on whom both legs had been amputated.

Methods:

Male patient, 26 years old, paraplegic since he was 15 years old when a bullet damaged his 12th thoracic vertebra. He had both legs amputated 7 years after the accident. A fall from a wheelchair caused a perineal wound which did not heal for about two years. Shock wave treatment was begun two years ago when the lesion size was 11.5 x 17.5 x 13 cm. Patient received seventy-two weekly sessions of ESWT with an electro-hydraulic device (Reflectron – HMT) using a special non-focused coupler. Treatment was performed on an outpatient base without anaesthesia. The number of impulses varied from 1631 to 5580 (100 to 1000 shocks/cm² at 0.1 mJ/mm², according to wound surface area).

Results:

Clinical evaluation and photographic documentation showed that there was a gradual reduction in the size of the wound, secretions and use of medication.

Discussion:

ESTW accelerated and improved repair of the non-healing wound.

Conclusion:

Shock wave therapy proved to be feasible, safe and well tolerated by the patient in the treatment of chronic soft tissue wounds. Complementary studies will be required to evaluate the extension of this therapy on skin lesions.