Created by the British Columbia Provincial Nursing Skin & Wound Committee in collaboration with the Wound Clinicians from









## HEALTH CARE How you want to be treat

## **Skin and Wound Product Information Sheet**

| Aquacel Extra   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Classification  | Filler: Hydrofiber  |  |
| Key Points  | <ul> <li>Two layers of sodium carboxymethyl-cellulose fibrous sheets stitched together for extra absorbency and strength when saturated</li> <li>Conformable, highly absorbent and transforms to a soft gel pad in contact with moisture</li> </ul> |  |
| Indications   | <ul> <li>For wounds with moderate to large amounts of exudate</li> <li>May be used for dry wounds if pre-moisten before use</li> </ul>  |  |
| Precautions   | • N/A   |  |
| Contraindications   | • Do not use for client with known sensitivity sodium or allergy to sodium carboxymethlycellulose   |  |
| Formats & Sizes   | <ul> <li>Sheet <ul> <li>5 x 5 cm</li> <li>10 x 10 cm</li> <li>15 x 15 cm</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ribbon <ul> <li>1 x 45 cm</li> <li>2 x 45 cm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |  |
| Ар  | plication Directions  | Rationale  |
| Cleanse/irrigate wound with sterile normal saline or agency   |   | Reduces wound debris and allows for adhesion of  |
| approved wound cleanser; dry peri-wound skin.   |   | dressing or tape.  |
| If required, apply skin barrier if needed.  |   | To protect the peri-wound skin from maceration and to improve the adhesion of the dressing or tape.  |
| To Apply  |   |  |
| Dressing may be cut but should overlap by 1 cm onto the peri-<br>wound skin. Cut ribbon to the desired length; <b>do not</b> cut the<br>ribbon into a smaller width.  |   | Overlapping allows for shrinkage of product as it<br>absorbs exudate and prevents areas of the wound<br>from being exposed during movement.  |
| Apply dry Aquacel Extra sheet directly on the wound bed. If<br>using multiple sheets, ensure overlapping by at least 1 cm on all<br>sheet edges. Aquacel Extra may be layered for highly exudating<br>wounds. |   | Cutting the ribbon into a smaller width diminishes its tensile strength.   |
| For packing: lightly pack one piece (where possible) of ribbon<br>into cavity, undermining or sinus tract. Leave a tail of the ribbon<br>so that it can easily be seen.                                       |   | Over-packing undermining or sinus tracts can lead to tissue necrosis. The tail will facilitate the removal of packing.   |
| Apply appropriate cover dressing to maintain a moisture-  |   | The choice of cover dressing is depended upon the  |
| balanced wound environment.   |   | amount of exudate expected.  |
| To Remove   |   |  |
| Aquacel Extra will have turned to a gel and have taken on the colour of the exudate. Using forceps, remove Aquacel Extra in one piece and cleanse wound bed to ensure residual gel is removed.                |   | The dressing will have formed a non-adherent gel<br>which assists with less painful dressing changes. If the<br>Aquacel Extra is adhered to wound bed, reassess the<br>choice of cover dressing. |
| Frequency of Change   |   |  |
| Will depend upon the amount of exudate. Can be left for up to 7 days.   |   |  |
| · · ·   |   |  |
| Expected Outcome  |   |  |
|   | ith no peri-wound skin maceration.  |  |