NHS
Business Services Authority

Clinical review

Film and Film Island Dressings

Version 2.1 - January 2018

NHS Clinical Evaluation Team
by the NHS, for the NHS

Contents

Guidance for use

This clinical evaluation report is aimed primarily at the NHS and all those working to support patient care. If you would like to talk through how this report can be used in your setting, please contact the team by emailing:

clinical.evaluationteam@nhs.net.

Please note that the product assessment results should only be read and used in conjunction with the full text of this clinical review.

Version Two printed January 2018

Film and Film Island report V2. This version is an update from the original Film and Film Island report published in February 2017.

It should be noted that the original text has been kept with the following update/additional information:

Results and details of the Laboratory testing of the film products originally evaluated in the first report, including:

- Conformability of the film dressing
- Adhesiveness and adhesiveness per cm^2
- Moisture vapour transmission rate (g/m^2/24hours)

New sections have also been included:

4.2.1 Criteria explanation- inclusion

4.2.2 Criteria explanation- exclusion

These have been added to provide guidance as to the rationale for the inclusion and exclusion of the clinical criteria featured in this Film and Film Island report.

4.3 Laboratory results

Provides guidance to interpret the numbers associated with the laboratory results, and relate them to practice.

1. Introduction

The NHS Clinical Evaluation Team was established in April 2016. The team's remit is to add independent clinical review to 'everyday healthcare consumables' used by the NHS.

Everyday healthcare consumables are products that are found in the majority of wards, clinics, health centres, treatment rooms and district nurses' bags across the NHS.

The purpose of this report is twofold: firstly, to provide a clinical assessment of the usability and requirements from the NHS for Film and Film Island Dressings that are available to the NHS from the national procurement provider. Secondly, to provide a clinical statement of desired functions and properties that the clinicians in the NHS require of film and film island dressings for use in future procurement activities.

It is clear from the evidence that these dressings, featured in this report, are everyday healthcare consumables that are found in most clinics or ward settings and would certainly be items included in any stock list to set up a new clinical service. On that basis, the project was approved by the Clinical Reference Board in June 2016, culminating in the production of this report for their approval in December 2016.

Based on 2015 data supplied by NHS Supply Chain, NHS Trusts are using nearly 9 million vapour permeable film dressings, and over 11 million film dressing with pad (referred to in this report as film island dressings). This has an annual total spend in excess of £10 million. There are currently 30 different Film and Film Island Dressings listed in this category. This report covers the range of products available as of August 2016.

Intelligence on Film and Film Island Dressing collated from a variety of sources to provide background information on the current, and historic evidence available to support the way in which these products are designed and clinically evaluated.

Following this, clinical engagement (conversation) sessions were held with the aim of identifying important clinical criteria for Film and Film Island Dressings from frontline NHS clinicians. These clinical criteria provided a standard against which all brands of Film and Film Island Dressings available from the national procurement provider were reviewed.

These clinical conversations were held within NHS organisations around the country with each event criteria were ratified redefined and refined. Reflection of wound care products recognised that these criteria being generated by national opinion needed specialist ratification, as such additional opinion was sought to validate and further refine these criteria via regional tissue viability specialist groups.

A more detailed description of the team and our pathway approach can be found in the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team operating manual which can be found on our website at: www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/cet

2. Clinical Context

2.1 Clinical Definition and Scope

Vapour permeable adhesive Film Dressings, more commonly referred to as “Film Dressings” are thin transparent polymeric films, with one side coated in a continuous adhesive layer. They are commonly used for wound management, skin protection and to secure external devices to the skin.

- Vapour permeable Film Island Dressings, have the same principles as Film Dressings in composition with the added element of a “low adherence” central pad to manage low levels of exudate from wounds to the skin.
- Film and Film Island Dressings are an everyday clinical product. In the 12 months to December 2015 the national provider estimates it sold nearly 20 million products.
- Film and Film Island Dressings can be located in most Health centres/ Treatment rooms, and Ward and clinic environments, as well as in Theatres and with Community Services and in patients own homes.
- Film and Film Island Dressings have a clinical and patient impact; they are applied routinely on patients, as the volume of sales figures support. The composition of adhesive, application and removal vary amongst products which may have key impact upon the patient experience and outcomes

For the purposes of this evaluation Film Dressings are being evaluated from a wound management perspective. As such, all films with an alternative primary purpose have been excluded in this evaluation i.e. Intravenous cannulation fixation films.

2.2 Intended Clinical Use

Film Dressings provide a plethora of functions in the healthcare setting. They provide a physical barrier from dirt, debris, and bacteria entering the wound; and they enhance the maintenance of a moist, warm, clean wound.

2.3 Clinical Practice

The standard Film Dressings provide visual access to the wound bed without removal of the dressing, with the island dressings designed to provide greater fluid management capacity of low exuding wound, potentially increasing “wear time of the product”. They can be used as a primary wound dressing for superficial wounds, and/or wounds closed by primary intention, and can be applied as secondary dressings to secure a primary dressing in place.

2.4 Clinical Impact

Selection of suitable product for intended clinical purpose can result in; reduced risk of infection from external environment, prolonged maintenance of moist warm clean wound environment to optimise wound healing, improve patient experience from frequency of dressing changes, to pain on dressing changes, and potentially reduce clinical workload on healthcare professionals.

2.5 Other Clinical Considerations

It must be recognised that the clinical understanding of wound care and knowledge of product(s) will vary amongst healthcare professionals in any given clinical environment.

2.6 Product Technical Design

See 2.1 Clinical definition and scope

3. Pathway Methods

Film and Film Island dressings

3.1 Intelligence Gathering

In preparation of the criteria, account has been taken of academic and related clinical evidence, known guidance and nationally recognised publications as further described in this Section 3.

3.1.1. Literature search

A literature search has been undertaken to establish what current academic knowledge exists on the products for evaluation. It should be noted that the team have not conducted a comprehensive or systematic review of literature. However, the team have interrogated the information to look for common themes which supported the development of the clinical criteria.

Initially an evidence search was performed across the NICE databases. This provided a recently published national article highlighting the lack of robust clinical evidence on the performance of complex/advanced wound care products, in aiding wound progression in comparison to basic products. The document concluded that the expected performance of these advanced products was not the issue, but the lack of robust evidence was a concern.

The search terms used (see figure 1, below) generated many returns however, data gleaned supported the earlier opinion from the NICE paper. Many of these reports provided case studies, posters, and examples of performance and delivery of

advanced wound care products, however many were open to bias, i.e. funded by manufacturer, without a defined methodology, without a clear control, and often included subjective opinion from clinicians using these products. This information was of value, but difficult to quantify and qualify

Search criteria	Databases searched
• Film Dressings • Vapour Permeable Film Dressings • Vapour Films • Film Dressings wounds • Primary Film Dressings • Secondary Film Dressings • Film with Pad Dressings • Film Island Dressings	• **NICE website Evidence search** https://www.evidence.nhs.uk/ • **NICE website journals and databases** https://www.nice.org.uk/about/what-we-do/evidence-services/journals-and-databases (using Healthcare databases advanced search tool – AMED, EMBASE, HMIC, BNI, Medline, PsycInfo, CINAHL, HEALTH BUSINESS ELITE databases searched)
Date Range	**Since 1975**
Language	**English**

Figure 1 Literature and other sources searches – **Film and Film Island Dressings**

3.1.2. National procurement provider specification

As the national procurement provider, NHS Supply Chain manages a framework of suppliers who are then listed in the national catalogue. The framework covers a wider selection of products than just Film and Film Island Dressings.

The specification used by the national provider (NHS Supply Chain) has been reviewed to understand what has previously been asked of suppliers of these products.

The specification, as used by the NHS national procurement provider (NHS Supply Chain, 2016), provides limited detail relating to the clinical criteria relevant for Film and Film Island Dressings, but are considered in the process for the development of such criteria.

3.1.3. National and international safety and quality standards

Account has also been taken of appropriate international and other standards as they pertain to the devices (e.g. ISO, EN and/or BSI).

The Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) website (https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts) returned no product alerts relating to this product category against the search terms previously described.

3.1.4. Product suppliers and manufacturers

All suppliers listed within the national framework were invited to submit relevant evidence, product information and testing data to help support the review. The majority of suppliers provided some level of information from product brochure through to technical datasheets and compliance with standards. Additionally laboratory testing, clinical trials and case studies were submitted by some of these suppliers.

3.1.5. Quality of evidence

Hierarchy of evidence

Levels of evidence sometimes referred to as hierarchy of evidence are assigned to studies based on the methodological quality of their design, validity, and applicability to patient care.

Hierarchy ranking	Description
Level 1	A systematic review of all relevant randomised controlled trials (RCT) or evidence-based clinical practice guidelines based on systematic reviews of RCT evidence
Level 2	Evidence from at least one well designed RCT
Level 3	Evidence from well-designed controlled trials; non-randomised, quasi experimental
Level 4	Well-designed case control & cohort studies
Level 5	Systematic reviews of descriptive and qualitative studies
Level 6	Evidence from a single, descriptive or qualitative study
Level 7	Evidence from the opinion of authorities and/or reports of expert committees

Figure 2 – Hierarchy ranking: Evidence based practice in nursing & healthcare: a guide to best practice" (B.M. Melnyk & E. Fineout-Overholt; 2005; p10)

4. NHS Clinical Engagement

In order to develop a shared vision of what Film and Film Island Dressings should offer several methods of engagement were used. These events were used to formulate thoughts, ideas and needs from differing clinicians, familiar with these products; identifying their own expectation(s) of the product for their given patient

group, and intended patient outcome, being used in a variety of differing clinical environments.

Mapping exercises were undertaken to determine personnel that should be involved and/or consulted regarding these products. This stage of the report focused on clinical staff that are:

a) recognised as subject experts, and/or
b) recognised regular users of the devices in their clinical practice.

Various methods of engagement were undertaken to ensure these clinical opinions were robust, and validated by peers from around the country, options of engagement included:

- Regional and national face-to-face events with NHS clinical colleagues
- Focussed visits to NHS clinicians regional and national face-to-face events
- Website subscription
- Attendance at specialist network events
- Attendance at NHS Business Services Authority events

Web-based surveys and e-engagement tools (e.g. email, WebEx, portal based surveys)

4.1 Clinical Conversations

To build a broad caucus of attendees at our events letters were sent inviting Trusts to nominate clinical colleagues to attend a series of regional group events. These were hosted by NHS organisations throughout England to enable the widest possible access for all invited. This ensured to set aside any pre-existing regional variance.

Details of the discussion outcomes were recorded from the open events, and then used together with the evidence gathered at the previous project stage to inform a list of clinical criteria against which the product(s) are measured against.

Much of these national clinical conversations featured opinions by generalist health care professionals, and allied health professionals. For the purpose of wound care products, ratification and validation was sought of the proposed criteria by tissue viability specialists. Engagement at regional tissue viability networks took place to obtain this validation. Furthermore these events were used to gain consent from these specialist clinicians to provide valuable feedback on the performance of products being used in their own clinical environment against the proposed criteria.

4.2 Clinical Criteria

The data received from all the NHS clinical conversation events, alongside the data collected from individual experts, was assimilated into a series of clinical criteria.

A clinical criterion is defined for the purposes of this report as a principle or standard by which products may be evaluated. It is a statement which describes the clinician's requirements for the product.

The proposed criteria were validated by workshop attendees and all other clinical experts engaged in the development process. In addition, other clinical experts who are likely to add further useful insight were also included, leading to the finalised clinical criteria listed below.

CLINICAL CRITERIA
Packaging
The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging
The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging
The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging
The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging
For Film Island Dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging
The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging
Product information including application is located within the packaging
Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging
Opening
The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility
How easy would you rate opening of packaging and maintaining product sterility
Ease of preparing the dressing for application
Clinical Use
Conformability
Skin stripping on removal
Vapour permeability
Not contra-indicated for Paediatric use
Not contra- indicated for Neonatal use
Adherence of island (film island dressings only)
Disposal
Nil

Figure 3- Defining the clinical criteria for Film and Film Island Dressings

It was noted from the engagement events, and validated by regional tissue viability networks that there were no clinical requirements relating to product disposal.

Clinical criteria are published online at **www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/CET** .

4.2.1. Criteria explanation- Inclusion (Film and Film Island Dressings)

To enhance the readers understanding of this report, and to provide value to the results, an explanation for the defined clinical criteria is captured.

Packaging Criteria	Explanation
The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging (Film)	Displaying the product category clearly ensures health professionals know that the product being selected is a film dressing
The product category is clearly visible on the individual packaging (Film)	As in some working environments (district nurses/ clinic rooms) products are removed from external box packaging, thus the individual packaging will be the only form of product identification
The size of the dressing is clearly displayed on the box packaging	Wastage of clinical time- clear visibility of size reduces time taken for a health professional to select the correct product first time (this will also reduce wastage of opening wrong size product)
For film island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	As previous to reduce wastage of time and error of product size- which can also lead to longer dressing time, greater risk of compromising sterile field, and reduce patient concordance in dressing and health education
The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	As medical devices, these products may be recorded in medical/nursing records, as such need to be present and easily accessible
Product information including application is located within the packaging	Information regarding product is important for health professionals to familiarise themselves with products prior to application
Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	As mentioned previously products are not always kept in original outer packaging, thus information may only be available on individual dressing packaging

Opening and Preparation Criteria	Explanation
The dressing packaging can be opened whilst maintaining product sterility	Aseptic technique and maintaining a sterile field is required for many wound care procedures
How easy would you rate opening of packaging and maintaining product sterility	Being able to open a product aseptically is a fundamental, however the ease at which this can be achieved is also important for patient experience, health professional credibility, and reducing wastage- both time and product
Ease of preparing the dressing for application (incorporating simplicity of instructions, ease of removal of backing, and product wastage)	Ease of application may reduce product wastage from mis application, it may also reduce duration of dressing change, which may reduce; risk of infection; temperature/moisture loss from wound bed, and enhance patient experience, promote patient confidence and concordance in health professional knowledge and ability

Clinical Use Criteria	Explanation
Conformability on application ease of application to “flat area of body and joint”	Ease of application may reduce product wastage from mis application, it may also reduce duration of dressing change, which may reduce; risk of infection; temperature/moisture loss from wound bed, and enhance patient experience, promote patient confidence and concordance in health professional knowledge and ability
Conformability on application ease of removing backing film	Feedback from conversations highlighted that this stage was the highest challenge in order to apply the dressing smoothly and avoid “sticking to itself” or “significant creasing”
Ability to reposition	Recognition of those film products that can, and those that cannot was deemed valuable for those areas where other health professionals may want to briefly see an area of the wound, where pain of dressing change was a significant factor, or in difficult to dress areas, where ability to reposition would reduce product wastage and clinician time
Wear time- Manufacturers guidance	As above good and clear licensed wear time optimises wound environment, and manages expectations of both patient and other health professional on dressing duration
Flexibility with wear	Flexibility of product is linked to expectation that this improves wear time (see benefits above) this may also enhance patient experience and promote concordance
Adhesiveness of film	The adhesive quality of any given dressing will be very dependent on other external factors such as: patient skin condition, area of body dressing applied, temperature of body when applied, oil content of skin, etc. as such no defined adhesiveness will be dependent, however understanding of those products with less or more adhesive is valuable to clinicians who generally speaking may wish for a product to have high adhesive properties (i.e. in post op surgical patients to enhance wear time, or lower adhesive properties, i.e. burns where risk of further trauma from dressing may be increased. As such a test of adhesive on inert standard gives some reference for products to be compared against
Removal (incorporating pain, trauma and skin condition)	Pain and trauma of dressing removal is a significant factor in patient experience, and concordance with care
Waterproofness	As these products are designed to be waterproof, thus providing a physical barrier to bacteria and external environment if intact
Vapour permeability	All film dressings are vapour permeable, the degree of variation amongst film products is largely unknown- correct balance and management of vapour permeability may optimise moist wound bed environment, and reduce frequency of dressing changes
Suitability for paediatric/neonatal patients	Film products are used on patients of all ages, it can be unclear which of these products (if any) have contraindications by suppliers for use on these patient groups- which would only be relevant to those working in these environments or with this patient population
Adherence of island to wound (film island dressing only)	Pain and trauma of dressing removal is a significant factor in patient experience, and concordance with care

4.2.2. Criteria explanation- Exclusion (Film and Film Island Dressings)

To capture true representation of clinical opinion, this report also aims to capture criteria that were raised, but not included as final criteria when the evaluation of these dressings took place.

Proposed Criteria	Explanation for exclusion
Disposal of product	Whilst disposal of product is of concern to clinicians, the disposal is often governed by: a the clinical environment where the product is being used/disposed of i.e. acute setting or patients own home, and b: the patient factors associated with their dressing i.e. infection risk

4.3 Product Assessment Results- Laboratory

Laboratory results provide numerical results against the defined criteria; for the Film Dressings these include:

- Conformability of the film - Looking at flex of the dressing laboratory testing measured the degree of pressure require to contour the dressings to the same proportion. As such the higher the pressure required, the less conformable (more rigid) the film was noted to be, measured in millimetres of Mercury (mmHg)

- Adhesiveness of the film adhesive - Testing against the adhesive properties of the film dressings, measuring force to remove the film, measured in Newtons and Newtons per centimetre square (N & N/cm^2)

- Moisture vapour transmission rate provides quantitative results on the rate at which fluid could move through the film dressing, recorded in grams per meter square per 24 hours ($g/m^2/24hrs$), the higher the resulting number the greater vapour transmission function of the film dressing

4.4 Product Evaluation

Evaluation methodologies are defined for each and every clinical criterion. They reflect a simulated clinical environment; actual clinical environment, or a laboratory test environment.

Wherever possible, products were supplied in a ‘ward ready’ unit of issue as would be found by clinical staff on accessing a store area in their clinical environment. Where this has not been possible it was acknowledged as part of the product assessment results matrix.

The tests were formulated to move through the key aspects of product use using the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team product cycle:

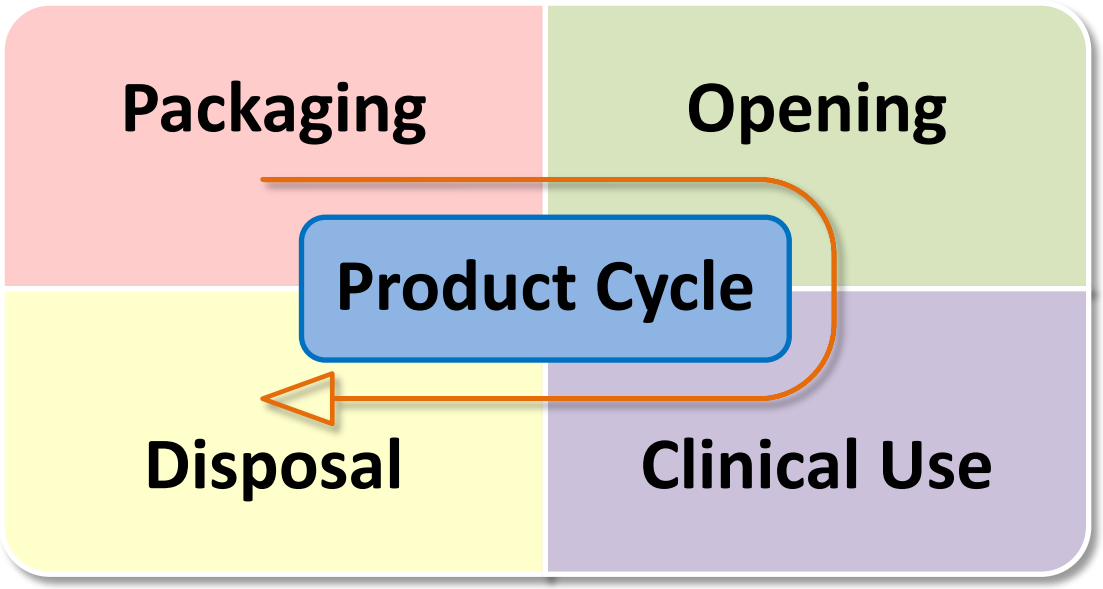


Figure 4 – NHS Clinical Evaluation Team Product Cycle

The evaluation product was ordered and picked from the NHS distribution centres. Products evaluated have been stored post evaluation for a period of three months after publication of this review.

Practicing NHS clinical staff were invited to review the products in accordance with the developed criteria. It was not possible to 'blind' the evaluations; in the sense that the evaluators were aware of the product brand; however, the product to be evaluated was independently picked in accordance with the product selection criteria in Section 2 and prepared for evaluation by colleagues who were not otherwise involved in the process.

Each clinical evaluator entered data independently and without inter-rater comparison into their own workbook. These were then collated, reviewed and summarised by the clinical specialist lead for the project.

As part of the evaluation preparation, each evaluator was given a more detailed and product specific definition for each of the scores

The defined criteria either prompted a ‘yes/no’ answer, or a score was given between 0 and 2, or 0 and 3 as follows:

Score	Meaning
0	This does not meet the criteria
1	This partially meets the criteria
2	This meets the criteria
3	This exceeds the criteria

Figure 5 – NHS Clinical Evaluation Team scoring methods

These numerical scores across all evaluators were totalled and a mean value determined. This mean value has then been converted into a star rating (see matrix below).

The mean values convert to a star rating in accordance with the following table:

Point scored			Star value	
0	to	0.99	0	Stars
1	to	1.24	1	Star
1.25	to	1.74	1.5	Stars
1.75	to	2.24	2	Stars
2.25	to	2.74	2.5	Stars
2.75	to	3	3	Stars

Figure 6 – conversion of mean scores to star rating

The above scoring mechanisms will not be followed where the criterion identified by the CET cannot reasonably exceed expectations. For example, if the clinical criterion was whether the removal of an adhesive dressing was atraumatic and with the individual patient reporting no pain or skin damage, then it cannot reasonably be expected that a product could exceed that criteria. Therefore, in such circumstances, the relevant criteria will be based on the scoring regime of:

a. If the criterion is a Yes/No response, the responses will be converted into aggregate percentages and then star ratings as follows:

Percentages (Yes)	Star value
0% to 24.99%	0 star
25% to 49.99%	1 star
50% to 74.99%	1.5 stars
75% to 100%	2 stars

Figure 7 – Percentage scores to star rating

b. For other subjective criteria, the responses will be converted into mean scores and then star ratings as follows:

Point scored	Star value
0 to 0.49	0 star
0.5 to 0.99	1 star
1 to 1.49	1.5 stars
1.5 to 2	2 stars

Figure 8 – Points scores to star rating

On the basis that clinical evaluators will be providing scores as follows:

- 0 stars – Does not meet the criteria
- 1 star – Partially meets the criteria
- 2 stars – Meets the criteria

All supplemental products used in the evaluation are in use in the NHS and available through the national catalogue (e.g. clinical waste containers, gloves, drug labels and syringes).

Evaluators were also encouraged to record comments where they felt it necessary to provide rationale for their scoring and answers.

The results obtained have been validated by the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team moderation committee for consistency of scoring and interpretation. These results are presented in the product assessment reports herein.

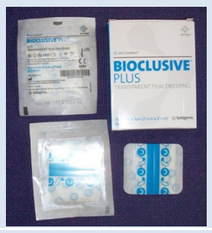
5. Product Assessment Results

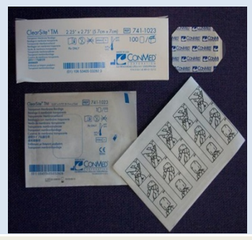
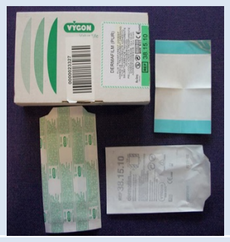
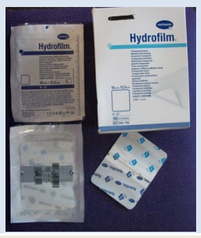
The following product assessment results pages show the tested clinical criteria listed horizontally on the left hand side of the page with the tested device found vertically across the top of the matrix. The accompanying photographs were taken during evaluation. These photographs are of sample products provided for evaluation. Lot numbers were recorded and samples have been retained in storage following the completion of evaluation.

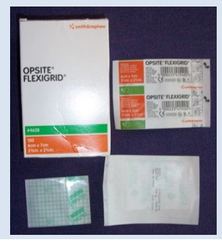
The products represented are the range of suppliers and brands available through the NHS national procurement provider's framework as of August 2016.

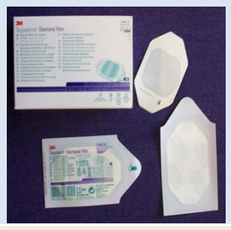
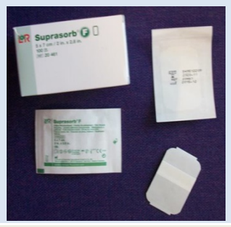
Results can be seen within the product matrix. Each clinical product has been given a star rating and the evaluator's collated comments are included in the matrix.

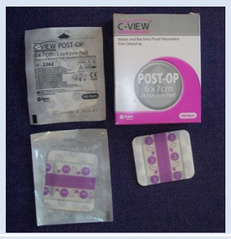
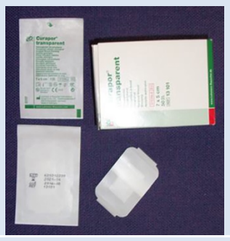
The product assessment results have been divided into two sub-categories of film dressings and film island dressing.

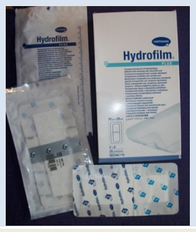
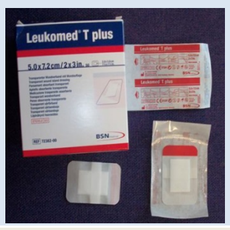
Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	365 Healthcare TOTAL	Bioclusive Plus	C View	ClearFilm
	FILM DRESSING				
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✗	✓	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✗	✓	✓	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.50)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★½ (2.50)	★★½ (2.50)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★½☆ (1.50)	★★★ (2.75)	★★½ (2.50)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.25)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★½☆ (1.25)	★★½ (2.25)	★★½ (2.50)	★½☆ (1.60)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.50)	★½☆ (1.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.30)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	7 days	7 days	Several days	7 days
	Conformability of film dressing (mmHg)	84.8 (SD 1)	84.7 (SD 3)	93.3 (SD 2)	103.3 (SD 14)
	Adhesiveness (N) and Adhesiveness per cm (N/cm)	1.44 (SD 0.8) N / 0.58 (SD 0.3) N/cm	3.24 (SD 0.3) N / 1.30 (SD 0.1) N/cm	3.20 (SD 0.3) N / 1.28 (SD 0.1) N/cm	2.72 (SD 0.8) N / 1.09 (SD 0.3) N/cm
	Pain and Trauma on removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate ($g/m^2/24hrs$)	901 (SD 41)	771 (SD 72)	802 (SD 35)	738 (SD 48)
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

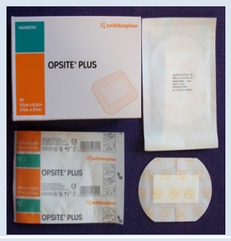
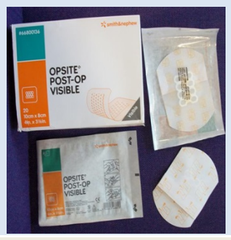
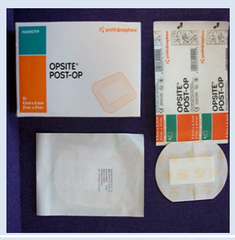
Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	ClearSite	Dermafilm	Hydrofilm
	FILM DRESSING			
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✗	✓	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✗	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✗	✗	✓
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	N/A	N/A	N/A
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✗	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✓	✗	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✗	✗	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★★ (0.60)	★★★ (0.70)	★★★ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★★★ (0.70)	★★★ (0.30)	★★★½ (2.70)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★★★ (0.70)	★★★ (0.30)	★★★½ (2.30)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★★ (0.30)	★★★ (0.30)	★★★ (2.00)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★★½ (1.30)	★★★ (0.30)	★★★½ (2.60)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★★★ (1.00)	★★★ (0.70)	★★★½ (2.70)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★★ (0.70)	★★★ (0.30)	★★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★★★ (0.70)	★★★ (0.30)	★★★½ (2.70)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	Not stated	Not stated	6 days
	Conformability of film dressing (mmHg)	141 (SD 2)	58.1 (SD 4)	88.4 (SD 6)
	Adhesiveness (N) and Adhesiveness per cm (N/cm)	0.54 (SD 0.1) N / 0.22 (SD 0.0) N/cm	2.65 (SD 0.2) N / 1.06 (SD 0.1) N/cm	6.90 (SD 1.6) N / 2.76 (SD 0.6) N/cm
	Pain & Trauma on removal of film	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★★★ (2.00)	★★★ (1.00)	★★★ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate ($g/m^2/24$ hrs)	885 (SD 15)	952 (SD 29)	1703 (SD 91)
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a

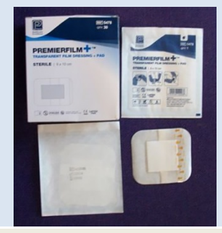
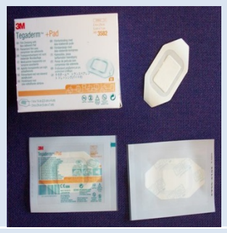
Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	Leukomed T	Mepitel Film	Mepore Film	Opsite Flexigrid
	FILM DRESSING				
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✗	✓	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✓	✓	✗
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (1.60)	★★½ (1.25)	★★½ (1.70)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★★½ (1.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★½ (2.30)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★★½ (1.60)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★½ (1.60)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (1.70)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (1.25)	★★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (1.75)	★★½ (1.30)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★½ (1.70)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (1.25)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★★½ (1.70)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (1.25)	★★½ (1.30)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✓	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	7 days	7 days	Not stated	14 days
	Conformability of film dressing (mmHg)	51.7 (SD 4)	45.9 (SD 3)	69.3 (SD 6)	98.6 (SD 4)
	Adhesiveness (N) and Adhesiveness per cm (N/cm)	2.28 (SD 0.3) N / 0.91 (SD 0.1) N/cm	0.31 (SD 0.2) N / 0.13 (SD 0.1) N/cm	0.66 (SD 0.2) N / 0.27 (SD 0.1) N/cm	3.13 (SD 0.3) N / 1.25 (SD 0.1) N/cm
	Skin stripping on removal-Pain & Trauma	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Skin stripping on removal-Skin condition post removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate ($g/m^2/24hrs$)	878 (SD 35)	1009 (SD 41)	1033 (SD 30)	643 (SD 26)
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	Tegaderm Diamond	Premierfilm	Suprasorb F	Tegaderm
	FILM DRESSING				
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✗	✗	✓
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✓	✓	✗	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★½ (2.30)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.70)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.70)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.70)	★½☆ (1.30)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.70)	★½☆ (1.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.70)	★☆☆ (1.00)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	Not stated	7 days	5-7 days	Not stated
	Conformability of film dressing (mmHg)	72.2 (SD 1)	66.1 (SD 1)	66.4 (SD 2)	61.1 (SD 2)
	Adhesiveness (N) and Adhesiveness per cm (N/cm)	0.44 (SD 0.2) N / 0.18 (SD 0.1) N/cm	1.89 (SD 0.9) N / 0.76 (SD 0.4) N/cm	2.48 (SD 0.6) N / 0.99 (SD 0.2) N/cm	0.34 (SD 0.1) N / 0.14 (SD 0.1) N/cm
	Pain & Trauma on removal	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate ($g/m^2/24hrs$)	3270 (SD 137)	685 (SD 26)	894 (SD 42)	696 (SD 28)
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	365 Healthcare+Pad	C-View Post-Op	Clearpore	Curapor Transparent
	FILM DRESSING				
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✗	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✓	✓	✓	✗
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✓	✓	✗
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✓	✓	✗
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✗	✓	✗	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✗	✓	✓	✗
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★½☆ (1.30)	★★½☆ (1.30)	☆☆☆ (0.60)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	☆☆☆ (0.60)	★★★½ (2.30)	★½☆☆ (1.30)	★½☆☆ (1.50)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★½☆☆ (1.60)	★★★½ (2.30)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.50)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★½☆☆ (1.60)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★½☆☆ (1.60)	★★★½ (2.30)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.50)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★½☆☆ (1.30)	★★★½ (2.30)	★☆☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
	Conformability-Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★½☆☆ (1.60)	★½☆☆ (1.60)	★½☆☆ (1.30)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★½☆☆ (1.30)	★½☆☆ (1.60)	★½☆☆ (1.30)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	7 days	7 days	Not stated	Not stated
	Conformability of film (mmHg)	See film results	See film results	N/A	N/A
	Pain & Trauma on removal	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	☆☆☆ (0.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★☆☆☆ (1.00)	★☆☆☆ (1.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)	★★☆☆ (2.00)

Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	Hydrofilm Plus	Leukomed Control	Leukomed T Plus
	FILM DRESSING			
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✗	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✓	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✗	✓
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✗	✓
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✓	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✓	✗	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★☆ (2.00)	★½☆ (1.50)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★★½ (2.70)	★★½ (2.50)	★½☆ (1.60)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★★½ (2.30)	★★★ (2.75)	★★½ (2.60)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.60)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★★½ (2.30)	★★★ (2.75)	★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★★½ (2.30)	★★★ (2.75)	★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	6 days	7 days	7 days
	Conformability of film (mmHg)	See film results		
	Pain & Trauma on removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★★ (3.00)
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★☆ (2.00)

Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	Mepore Film & Pad	Opsite Plus	OpSite Post Op Visible	OpSite Post Op
	FILM DRESSING				
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✗	✗	✓	✓
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	✓	✗	✓	✗
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✓	✓	✓	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★½☆ (1.25)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.30)	★★½ (2.30)	★★½ (2.30)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★½☆ (1.25)	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★½ (2.30)	★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	Not stated	Not stated	Not stated	Not stated
	Conformability of film	See film results			
	Pain & Trauma on removal	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★☆☆ (1.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	★★★ (3.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★★ (3.00)
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	★★★ (3.00)	★★☆ (2.00)	★★★ (3.00)	★★☆ (2.00)

Product Assessment Cycle	CLINICAL CRITERIA	Premierfilm+Pad	Tegaderm +Pad
	FILM DRESSING		
PACKAGING AND STORAGE:	The product category is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓
	The product category is clearly visible on the dressing packaging	✓	✓
	The size of the dressing is clearly visible on the box packaging	✓	✓
	The dressing size and shape is visible without opening the individual packaging	✗	✓
	For Film Island dressings the size and shape of the wound contact pad is visible without opening the individual packaging	✗	✓
	The lot number, expiry date and CE marking are clear on the packaging	✓	✓
	Product information including application is located within the packaging	✓	✓
	Instructions for dressings application is located on the individual packaging	✓	✓
OPENING AND PREPARATION FOR CLINICAL USE:	The dressing can be opened maintaining product sterility	✓	✓
	Ease of opening dressing maintaining product sterility	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Preparing dressing for application-Clarity & simplicity of instructions	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (1.70)
	Preparing dressing for application-Ease of removal of dressing backing	★★½ (2.30)	★★½ (2.30)
	Preparing dressing for application-Wastage of dressing	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
CLINICAL USE:	Ease of application to "flat" area of body	★★½ (2.30)	★★½ (2.30)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "flat" area of body	★½☆ (1.70)	★½☆ (1.70)
	Ease of application to "joint" area of body	★★½ (2.30)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ease of backing layer removal to "joint" area of body	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Ability to reposition	✗	✗
	Manufacturers licensed wear time	7 days	Not stated
	Conformability of film	See film results	
	Pain & Trauma on removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Skin condition post removal	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Waterproofness	✓	✓
	Moisture vapour transmission rate	N/A	N/A
	Non contraindicated for Paediatric use	✓	✓
	Non contraindicated for Neonatal use	✓	✓
	Adherence of island- To wound bed	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Adherence of island-Ease of removal of pad	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)
	Adherence of island-Atrauma to wound bed	★★☆ (2.00)	★★☆ (2.00)

Using the Product Assessment Results Matrix

The clinical criteria displayed are designed to capture key clinical elements that health professionals may wish to consider when reviewing/selecting products for their own clinical practice. The report is intended as a guidance tool to aid product selection and is not intended to be a universal determination of the clinical effectiveness of any particular product. Each clinical practitioner should therefore make their own assessments taking into account all relevant considerations for their particular situation.

Not all clinical criteria cited in the report will be relevant or important in all environments,

i.e. Wear time in a clinic where dressings are removed same day

Likewise not all clinical criteria will be relevant or important for all patient groups;

i.e. Suitable for paediatric use in an adult unit/hospital

Clinicians may identify the criteria that most represent their clinical environment and patient demographic, and may choose to build their own hierarchy of importance to aid product(s) selection for patient outcome goals using the matrix presented in this report, their own clinical knowledge, as well as any other resources (including publications) to provide informed choice and transparency of their decision for product(s) being used.

6. Further Considerations and Recommendations

6.1 Future recommendations

There is a large range of film dressings currently available via the current national provider.

This report recognises that no one product will suit all individuals, nor does one product suit the differing clinical applications and requirements. This will not only be dependent on the individual, but on the clinical environment these products are being used. Whilst it is not reasonable or sensible to provide an extensive range of Film and Film Island Dressings within any given health care setting, consideration should be given to the primary use of these products for the majority of their patient group, within a Trust/Health organisation, with recognition and identification to some of the other options of film dressing for particular individuals/circumstances.

Having clearer knowledge of clinical needs allows the clinician better insight into which product(s) may best meet their needs.

This report for future product development recommends and advocates that a products performance threshold is inherently linked to the knowledge of the clinician using it. To potentially optimise this, the Clinical Evaluation Team would recommend suppliers consider a standardisation for colour coding products by

group/classification. Consideration again must be given to the primary function/wound contact layer of the dressing to best represent its group.

Product Group	Colour Coding
Hydrogels	
Hydrocolloids	
Gelling Fibres	
Films	
Non-adherent wound contact layers	
Foams	
Antimicrobials	
Absorbents	
Super absorbents	

Figure 7. -Clinical Evaluation Team colour coding of dressing groups

An additional recommendation would be to clearly display maximum wear time of product to aid clinical and patient experience in managing expectations and performance of the products being applied.

6.2 Barcodes

The CET is aware of the Scan4Safety project and is aligned with the ambitions of the programme, which will deliver significant benefits in terms of patient safety and efficiency to the NHS. The adoption of standards, driven by Scan4Safety, enables patient, product and location identification and traceability from the supply chain to the patient.

Adoption of these standards has also been shown to improve the quality of care by minimising the risk of human error.

The CET will be considering the inclusion of an evaluation criteria relating to the presence of GS1 compliant barcodes in future reports, as following our clinical conversations we have seen clinical staff asking for it to be included, but further information will be issued by the CET on this to stakeholders in advance.

7. Disclaimer

Reports published by the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team represent general guidance and the team's opinions on products are based on the clinical evaluations undertaken, using the information and clinical criteria generated from extensive stakeholder engagement in line with the team's requirements and evaluation pathway. Reports will be reviewed and updated at the team's discretion as deemed appropriate to reflect any changes.

You should make your own assessment and not take or rely on the opinions expressed by the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team, as contained in the reports, as recommendations or advice to buy or not buy (as the case may be) particular products.

The NHS Clinical Evaluation Team is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the results obtained from the use of the information contained in the reports. The reports are provided 'as is', with no guarantee of completeness, accuracy or timeliness and without representation, warranty, assurance or undertaking of any kind, express or implied, including, but not limited to fitness for a particular purpose.

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Reports are accurate at the time of publication, any recommendations or best practice guidance should be checked for updates.

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The team would also like to acknowledge the inspiration of Mandie Sunderland who saw this opportunity and who, through her personal drive and enthusiasm, has ensured that the clinical voice and the need for quality, safety and value throughout the NHS has been heard.

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Quality, safety and value are at the heart of our work and it's important that we use our clinical experience to deliver high standards of care while reducing cost and waste in the NHS.'

Mandie Sunderland
Chair, Clinical Reference Board
(Governing body of the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team)

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