

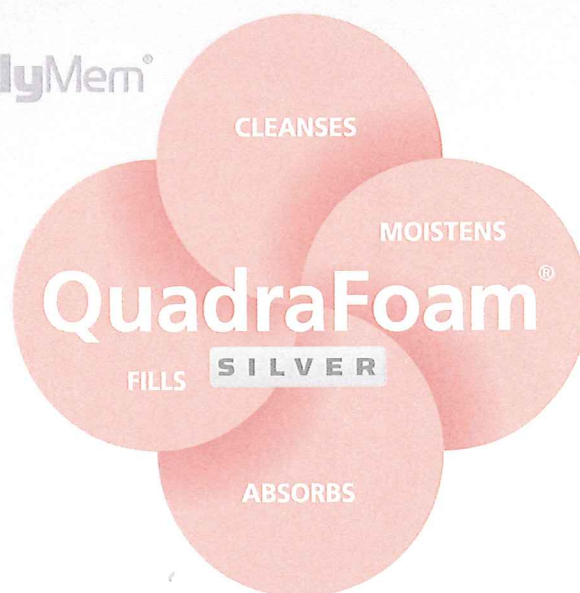
PolyMem®

SILVER



The World's Only QuadraFoam®
Silver Dressings

PolyMem®



PolyMem Silver® Protects

PolyMem Silver, PolyMem Wic Silver®, PolyMem Wic Silver Rope, PolyMem Max® Silver® and Shapes by PolyMem® Silver® belong to an innovative class of adaptable wound care dressings called QuadraFoam. QuadraFoam dressings effectively cleanse, fill, absorb, and moisten wounds throughout the healing continuum. PolyMem's unique formulation of QuadraFoam combines these four key wound-healing capabilities like no other single wound dressing.

Silver has a long history of safe use as an antimicrobial in wound management. High purity small silver particles are uniformly distributed throughout and bound into the PolyMem formulated membrane for maximum surface area and effectiveness. Silver ions, which provide the antimicrobial action, are released from the surface of the silver particles when they come in contact with moisture. In tests for antimicrobial effectiveness using several in-vitro methods, PolyMem Silver dressings killed at least 99.9% of the entire population of each organism tested.* The bacteria and fungi tested are representative of organisms found in clinical settings.

How it Works

When you use PolyMem Silver on a wound, moisture and fluids in the wound bed are absorbed into the dressing, releasing silver ions, which protect the dressing from microbial contamination.

In addition to silver, the PolyMem Silver membrane contains a clinically proven non-ionic, non-toxic, tissue-friendly cleansing agent that helps loosen necrotic tissue, slough and other debris. The hydrophilic polyurethane membrane matrix, containing a starch co-polymer, draws fluid and debris from the wound bed and swells into a non-adherent gel while providing super absorbance of fluids. As the exudate is being absorbed, the membrane matrix expands to fill and conform to wounds. Additionally, glycerol (also known as glycerin) help ensure non-adherence to the wound bed so that the dressing or filler can be removed without disturbing the wound bed. Glycerol also helps control odor while softening non-viable tissue. Except for the cavity filler, the membrane is also covered by a semi-permeable continuous film backing which is optimized for oxygen and moisture vapor permeability and as a barrier to liquids.

PolyMem Silver can be used instead of other silver containing dressings because the dressings support moist wound healing while providing a continuous silver reservoir.

PolyMem Silver Benefits

Generates silver ions consistently from a continuous silver reservoir

Reduces bioburden in the dressing

Kills 99.9% of entire population of all bacteria and fungi tested*

Incorporates unique silver particles

Eliminates need for secondary dressing (except when using PolyMem Wic Silver or PolyMem Wic Silver Rope)

Absorbs up to 10 times its dressing weight in exudate

Maintains a moist wound environment for improved healing

Indicates when dressing change is necessary via its clear, thin backing (except PolyMem Wic Silver or PolyMem Wic Silver Rope)

Won't adhere to the wound bed, minimizing damage to wound bed upon removal

Continuously cleanses the wound, reducing the need for wound bed cleansing during dressing changes

Won't stain skin

Helps relieve wound pain and improve comfort¹

No need to wet or re-wet

QuadraFoam Silver Configurations

PolyMem Silver

PolyMem Silver dressings are composed of a hydrophilic polyurethane membrane matrix with a semi-permeable polyurethane continuous thin film backing. Use as a combined primary and secondary dressing or as a secondary dressing. Available in non-adhesive or with cloth-backed adhesive.

PolyMem Wic Silver & PolyMem Wic Silver Rope

PolyMem Wic Silver & PolyMem Wic Silver Rope are especially designed for cavity wounds. As these are wound fillers to be used as a primary dressing, these configurations come without the PolyMem thin film backing. These dressings should be cut one-third smaller than the wound because they will expand when they absorb wound exudates. Use any of the other appropriate PolyMem or Shapes by PolyMem configurations as a secondary dressing.

PolyMem Wic Silver Cavity wound fillers are a hydrophilic polyurethane membrane matrix with a pre-slit, perforated design that can be easily separated into three 1" (2.5 cm) wide strips to accommodate the wound bed size.














PolyMem Wic Silver Rope wound fillers are configured for use on undermining and tunneling wounds. It is reinforced with a medical grade mesh to enhance the strength of the dressing for use in deep tunneling wounds and help ensure easy and complete removal.

Shapes by PolyMem Silver

Shapes® are pre-cut dressings delivered in a variety of formations that fit wounds right out of the box. Sacral and a variety of oval shapes are available. Use sacral and oval dressings as a combined primary and secondary dressing or as a secondary dressing. Available with film adhesive membrane.

PolyMem Max Silver

The Max configuration is a thicker formulation for wounds with heavier drainage, when longer wear time is desired or to provide additional cushioning. This version absorbs up to 60% more exudate than a same size, standard thickness, PolyMem Silver formulation dressing.

	Ref	Description	Dimensions	Packaging
	1044	Silver Non-Adhesive Pad Dressing	4.25" X 4.25" (10.8 cm X 10.8 cm) Pad	15 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1077	Silver Non-Adhesive Pad Dressing	6.5" X 7.5" (17 cm X 19 cm) Pad	15 Per Box 1 Box Per Case
	1124	Silver Non-Adhesive Pad Dressing	4.25" X 12.5" (10.8 cm X 32 cm) Pad	12 Per Box 1 Box Per Case
	1333	WIC Silver Cavity Wound Filler	3" X 3" (8 cm X 8 cm), 4 Grams	10 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1814	WIC Silver Rope Cavity Wound Filler	0.4" x 14" (1 cm x 35 cm), 3 Grams	6 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1045	MAX Silver Non-Adhesive Pad Dressing	4" X 4" (10 cm X 10 cm) Pad	8 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1088	MAX Silver Non-Adhesive Pad Dressing	8" X 8" (20 cm X 20 cm) Pad	5 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1766	Silver Cloth Island Dressing	6" X 6" (15 cm X 15 cm) Adhesive 3.5" X 3.5" (9 cm X 9 cm) Pad	15 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1709	Silver Sacral Dressing	7.2" X 7.8" (18.4 cm X 20.0 cm) Sacral Adhesive 4.5" X 4.7" (11.4 cm X 12.0 cm) Pad	10 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1886	#8 Silver Oval Dressing	6.5" X 8.2" (16.5 cm X 20.9 cm) Oval Adhesive 4.0" X 5.7" (10.1 cm X 14.6 cm) Pad	10 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1853	#5 Silver Oval Dressing	5.0" X 3.5" (12.7 cm X 8.8 cm) Oval Adhesive 3.0" X 2.0" (7.6 cm X 5.0 cm) Pad	15 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1823	#3 Silver Oval Dressing	2.0" X 3.0" (5.0 cm X 7.6 cm) Oval Adhesive 1.0" X 2.0" (2.5 cm X 5.0 cm) Pad	20 Per Box 5 Boxes Per Case
	1815	#1 Silver Oval Dressing	2.0" X 3.0" (5.0 cm X 7.6 cm) Oval Adhesive 1.0" X 1.5" (2.5 cm X 3.8 cm) Pad	20 Per Box 5 Boxes Per Case

PolyMem and Shapes by PolyMem wound care dressings are latex free.

INDICATIONS FOR USE

- Pressure ulcers (Stages I–IV)
- Diabetic ulcers
- Venous ulcers
- Donor and graft sites
- Dermatologic disorders
- First and second degree burns
- Skin tears
- Acute wounds
- Leg ulcers

Available through most major medical supply distributors or direct from Ferris Mfg. Corp.

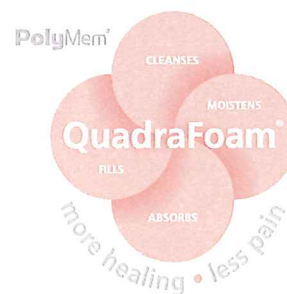
This document is meant for general informational purposes only. See individual product literature for specific indication and instructions for use. We strongly recommend that you consult your payor organization with regard to its reimbursement policies.

1. Benskin L. Dramatic Pain Relief Through the Use of Polymeric Membrane Dressings (with and without Silver) on a Deep Axillary Wound. 19th Annual SAWC. Poster #25. April 30-May 3, 2006. San Antonio, Texas USA.

*Organisms tested included *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (ATCC# 4352), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (ATCC# 9027), *Enterococcus faecalis* (VRE) (ATCC# 51575), *Candida albicans* (ATCC# 10231), *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) (ATCC# 33591) and *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC#6538). The organisms chosen demonstrate the antimicrobial actions of the silver formulation on relevant, representative organisms.

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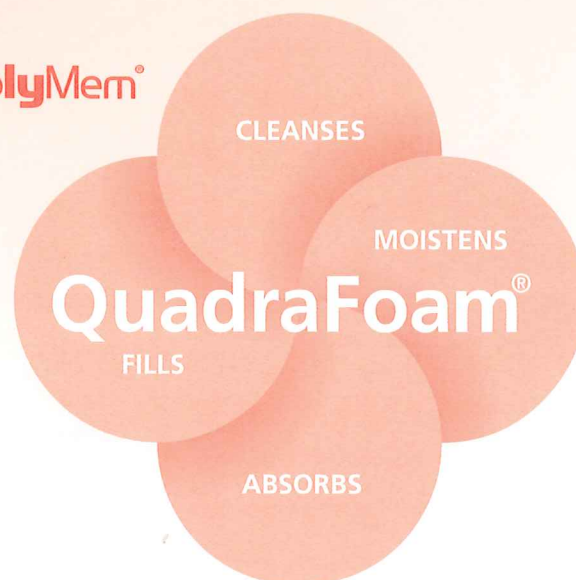
16W300 83rd Street, Burr Ridge, IL 60527-5848 U.S.A.
Toll Free U.S.A.: 800-765-9636 International: +1 630-887-9797
www.PolyMem.com www.PolyMem.eu
www.PolyMemShapes.com www.PolyMemShapes.eu

PolyMem®

The World's Only Primary QuadraFoam® Dressing



PolyMem®



PolyMem's patented formulation of QuadraFoam especially designed for tunneling and cavity wounds.

PolyMem Wic® wound filler products belong to an innovative class of adaptable wound care dressings called QuadraFoam. QuadraFoam dressings effectively cleanse, fill, absorb, and moisten wounds throughout the healing continuum. No other single wound dressing combines these four key wound healing capabilities like the PolyMem formulation dressings.

As PolyMem Wic, PolyMem Wic Silver®, and PolyMem Wic Silver Rope wound fillers absorb fluid, they each expand about one-third within the wound tunnel or cavity to fill dead space. The QuadraFoam membrane establishes and maintains a clean and moisturized wound bed. The moisture-balancing actions of the dressings are able to absorb impressive amounts of moisture and deliver moisture as demanded by the exposed tissues in the wound.

PolyMem and Pain Relief

The family of PolyMem QuadraFoam dressings help relieve wound pain and reduce the spread of inflammation into surrounding uninjured tissues without interfering with the robust localized inflammatory response required for healing.^{1,2,3}

PolyMem Silver Formulation

PolyMem Wic Silver and PolyMem Wic Silver Rope have small particle silver added to the PolyMem formulation. When you use the PolyMem QuadraFoam Silver formulation on a wound, moisture and fluids in the wound bed are absorbed into the dressing, releasing silver ions, which protect the dressing from microbial contamination. PolyMem Silver dressings are the most absorptive of the silver containing dressings while also helping to reduce the risk of damaging healthy cells within the wound.⁴ In tests for antimicrobial effectiveness using invitro testing methods, PolyMem QuadraFoam Silver formulation dressings killed at least 99.9% of the entire population of each organism tested.* The bacteria and fungi tested are representative of organisms found in clinical settings.

PolyMem Wic and PolyMem Wic Silver can effectively replace common categories of cavity dressings.

PolyMem Wic Silver Rope can effectively replace common categories of tunneling dressings, which include:

- ALGINATES
- OTHER ROPES
- GAUZE
- HYDROGELS
- FOAMS

How it Works

PolyMem Wic (Figure A) and PolyMem Wic Silver (Figure B) Cavity Wound Fillers are a hydrophilic polyurethane membrane matrix with a pre-slit, perforated design that can be easily separated into three 1" (2.5 cm) wide strips to accommodate the wound bed size.

Figure A

POLYMEM WIC

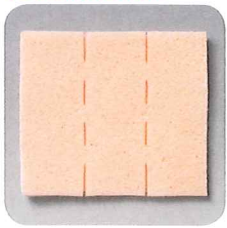
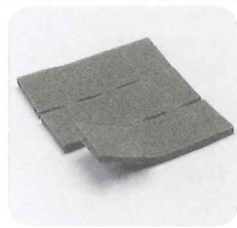


Figure B

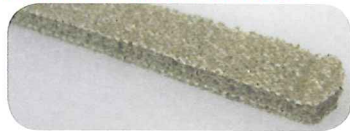
POLYMEM WIC SILVER



PolyMem Wic Silver Rope (Figure C) is made of the same hydrophilic polyurethane membrane matrix but is reinforced with a medical grade mesh to enhance the strength of the dressing for use in deep tunneling wounds to assure easy and complete removal.

Figure C

POLYMEM WIC SILVER ROPE



The membrane incorporates a mild, nonionic, nontoxic, tissue friendly cleansing agent that helps maintain a clean wound bed by loosening necrotic tissue, slough, bioburden and other debris. The hydrophilic polyurethane membrane matrix, which includes a superabsorbent starch copolymer, draws fluid and debris from the wound bed and swells into a non-adherent gel encapsulated inside the dressing. As the exudate is being absorbed, the membrane matrix expands about one-third to fill the wound cavity. Additionally, glycerol (also known as glycerin) helps assure non-adherence to the wound bed so that the dressing can be removed without disturbing the wound bed or causing pain. Glycerol also controls odor while supporting autolytic debridement.

PolyMem Wic, PolyMem Wic Silver Configurations

PolyMem Wic cavity wound filler is available in 3" x 3" and 3" x 12" sheets and PolyMem Wic Silver in 3" x 3" sheets. PolyMem Wic and PolyMem Wic Silver are configured for use on wounds with shallow depths in combination with other dressings in order to increase absorption as well as wounds with cavities.

PolyMem Wic Silver Rope

PolyMem Wic Silver Rope is available in 0.4" x 14" (1 cm x 35 cm). PolyMem Wic Silver Rope is configured for use on tunneling wounds and can be applied using a facility supplied applicator stick (Figure D).

Figure D



PolyMem Wic Silver Rope may be used as a cavity filler as well as tunnel filler by coiling the remaining dressing into the cavity (Figure E).

Figure E



PolyMem Wic, PolyMem Wic Silver, and PolyMem Wic Silver Rope are designed to function as a primary dressing. Therefore, the configurations come without the thin film backing found on other PolyMem dressings. You can use any of the other appropriate PolyMem or Shapes® by PolyMem QuadraFoam configurations as your secondary dressing.

PolyMem Wic
Cavity Wound



PolyMem Wic
Undermined
Cavity Wound



PolyMem
Wic Silver
Abdominal
Surgical Site



PolyMem Wic
Silver
Radiation Burn
with Tunneling



PolyMem Wic
Silver Rope
Tunneling
Abscess



PolyMem Wic Wound Filler Benefits

Fast Super Absorbent Wicking

- Quickly absorbs and holds up to:
 - « 10 times weight (Wic and Wic Silver)
 - « 6 times weight (Wic Silver Rope)
- Facilitates management of cavity wounds (Wic and Wic Silver) and tunneling wounds (Wic Silver Rope)
- Expands up to one-third as wound fluid is absorbed
- Soft and pliable, conforming to wound shape

Non-adherent

- Will not stick to the wound bed while maintaining integrity of healing tissue
- Will not dehydrate wound bed
- Easy, pain-free application and removal

Continuous Cleansing

- Reduces need to cleanse wound bed during dressing changes
- Minimizes pain and disruption of newly forming tissues often associated with wound bed cleansing

Wide Range of Application

- Perforated for ease of use (Wic only) and can be cut to size (All Wic products)
- Reinforced for added strength (Wic Silver Rope only)
- Will donate moisture or absorb exudate, depending on condition of wound bed and fluid level in dressing
- Clinician can add sterile water or saline to make the dressing a faster moisture donor, or can allow the dressing to draw fluid to the site as it absorbs fluid into the dressing
- Helps relieve wound pain and improve comfort
- Small particle silver provides an antimicrobial reservoir in the dressing (Wic Silver and Wic Silver Rope)

Cost Effective

- Saves time and supplies by usually eliminating the need to cleanse the wound bed during dressing changes
 - « Dressing changes are easy - remove old dressing and apply new
 - « Removes intact - no flushing or rinsing of debris is usually necessary
- Saves time and money by often reducing the number of dressing changes while extending the time between changes

	Ref	Description	Dimensions	Packaging
	5733	WIC Cavity Wound Filler	3" x 3" (8 cm x 8 cm) 4 grams	10 Per Box 4 Boxes Per Case
	5712	WIC Cavity Wound Filler	3" x 12" (8 cm x 30 cm) 16 grams	12 Per Case
	1333	WIC Silver Cavity Wound Filler	3" x 3" (8 cm x 8 cm) 4 grams	10 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case
	1814	WIC Silver Rope	0.4" x 14" (1 cm x 35 cm) 3 grams	6 Per Box 2 Boxes Per Case

PolyMem Wound Care Dressings Are Latex Free

INDICATIONS FOR USE

- Pressure ulcers (Stages III–IV)
- Vascular ulcers
- Diabetic ulcers
- Acute wounds

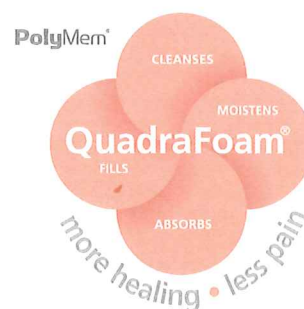
Available through most major medical supply distributors or direct from Ferris Mfg. Corp.

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1. Benskin L. Dramatic Pain Relief through the use of PolyMeric Membrane Dressings (with and without silver) on a deep axillary wound. 19th Annual SAWC, San Antonio TX. April 30 - May 3, 2006. Poster #25.
2. Kim YK, Less SW, Hong SH. The effects of PolyMem on the wound healing. Journal of Korean Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. 1999; 109:1165-72
3. Beitz AJ, Newman A, Kahn AR, Ruggles T, Eikmeier L. A polymeric membrane dressing with antinociceptive properties: analysis with a rodent stab wound secondary hyperalgesia; The Journal of Pain. February, 2004; 5(1):38-47
4. Burd A, Kwok CH, Hung SC, Chan HS, Gu H, Lam WK. A comparative study of the cytotoxicity of silver-based dressings in monolayer cell, tissue explant, and animal models. Wound Repair and Regeneration. 2007;15:94-104

*Organisms tested included *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (ATCC# 4352), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (ATCC# 9027), *Enterococcus faecalis* (VRE) (ATCC# 51575), *Candida albicans* (ATCC# 10231), *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) (ATCC# 33591) and *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC#6538). The organisms chosen demonstrate the antimicrobial actions of the silver formulation on relevant, representative organisms.

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PolyMem®

• Fragile Skin • Burns • Skin Tears • EB Wounds • Full/Partial Thickness Wounds • Traumatic Wounds • Fractures

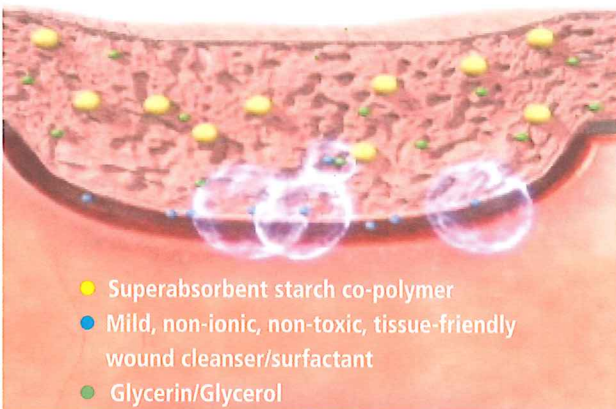
PolyMem's unique formulation
has the ability to reduce
patients' total wound pain
experience while actively
encouraging healing^{1,2,3}



• Full/Partial Thickness Wounds • EB Wounds • Skin Tears • Burns • Fragile Skin

More Healing

PolyMem is a unique multifunctional dressing specifically designed to reduce a patient's total wound pain experience, while actively promoting healing. All PolyMem dressings effectively cleanse, fill, absorb and moisten wounds throughout the healing continuum.



Activated by wound fluid...

- The PolyMem dressing will expand and gently fill the wound.
- The mild, non-ionic, non-toxic, tissue-friendly wound cleanser/surfactant and the glycerin incorporated in the dressing will be released to the wound bed, while the starch co-polymer and the foam will bind fluid in the dressing.
- The semi-permeable film cover will control moisture vapor transmission.

CLEANSSES:

The dressing is continuously cleansed which minimizes the need for additional cleansing during dressing changes. The mild, non-ionic, non-toxic, tissue-friendly wound cleanser/surfactant is activated by moisture.⁴ It supports autolytic debridement by reducing interfacial tension between healthy tissue and non-viable tissue.^{4,5} The superabsorbent agents help to draw the non-viable tissue from the wound into the dressing.

In a patient with a crushed-foot injury, the patient had only a limited ability to come to the hospital more frequently, and cleansing was not possible during dressing changes on this patient.



In a 4-month-old patient with a pressure ulcer, the patient had only a limited ability to come to the hospital more frequently, and cleansing was not possible during dressing changes on this patient either.



COMFORT:

PolyMem dressings are designed to be very comfortable. They are available in ideal configurations that naturally conform to shallow (less than 0.5 cm), cavity, tunnel, and undermined wounds. PolyMem dressings help ensure that both full- and partial-thickness wounds can be properly managed.

In a patient with a pressure ulcer and communicating fistula infected with MRSA, the patient had only a limited ability to come to the hospital more frequently, and cleansing was not possible during dressing changes on this patient either.



In a patient with a full open abdominal wound managed with saline-soaked gauze for 3 days, the patient had severe pain due to saline gauze.



MOISTENS:

- The built-in moisturizer (glycerin) helps establish and maintain a moist healing environment.
- Glycerin, together with the other components, ensures the dressing does not adhere to the wound.
- The hygroscopic glycerin, together with the other components, creates a "water-flux" from the deep tissues into the area of the wound. This "water-flux" is important in healing wounds as it brings healing agents, including nutritional and growth factors, from the deep tissues to the wound.⁸
- Glycerin is also recognized to help reduce odor and hypergranulation.⁹



PolyMem dressings helped maintain an ideal moisture level within this wound. The tendons were kept moist and maintained their viability throughout management.¹⁰



PolyMem dressings helped to donate moisture and absorb excess exudate as needed during wound management, maintaining viability of tendons.¹¹



ABSORBS:

- Wound fluid contains natural growth factors and nutrients. Superabsorbents contained in the dressings draw wound fluid to the wound site. These superabsorbents have high affinity for the watery portion of wound fluid. The net result is concentration of the larger components in the wound.¹²
- Powerful absorption properties help draw non-viable tissue into the dressing where it is easily discarded along with the dressing.

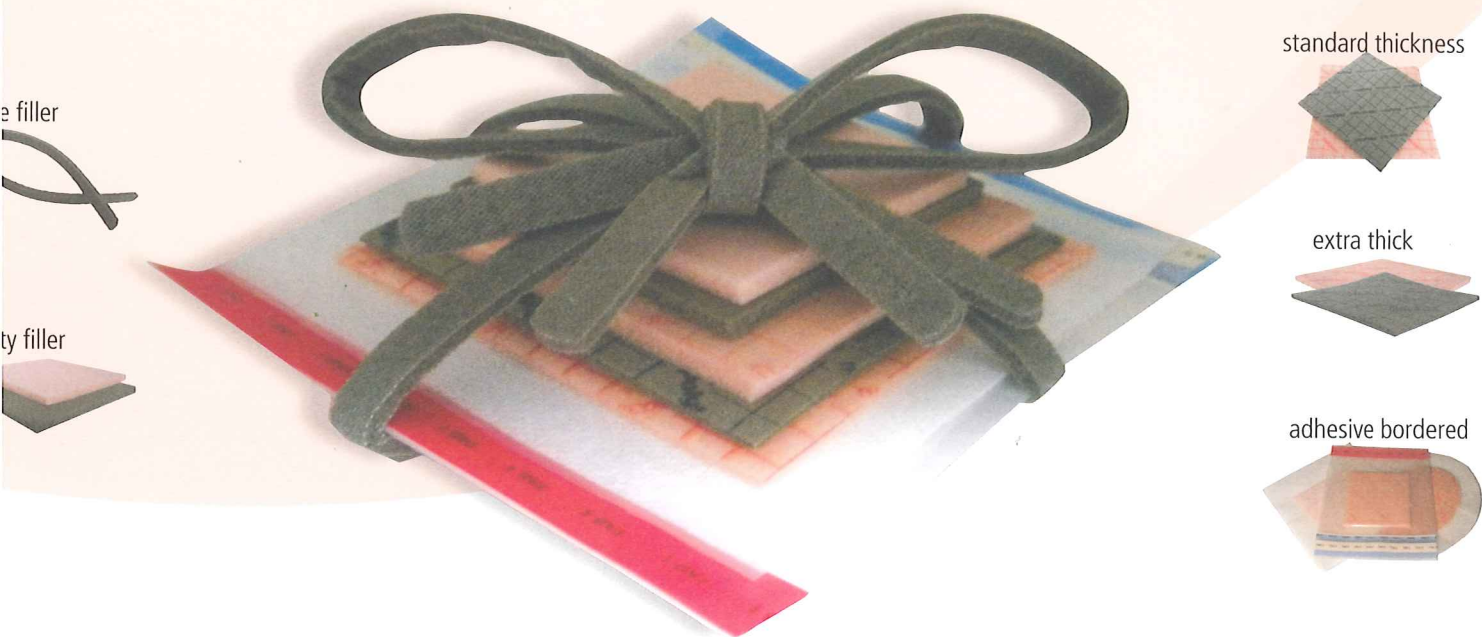


PolyMem provides a visual indication of when to change the dressing without physically looking under the dressing.

Change dressing when exudate, visible through top of dressing, reaches approximate wound margin.



PolyMem is standard of care for donor sites at some facilities.³



PolyMem Non-Adhesive Dressings:

are the optimal choice when cutting dressings to size and taping is your preferred method of application. Also available with nanocrystalline silver (PolyMem Silver) and with extra thickness (Max® version).



PolyMem Urethane Film-Adhesive Dressings:

The ultra-thin, adhesive-coated urethane film, together with the PolyMem membrane, will provide a breathable yet tough, protective, water-resistant dressing of unsurpassed versatility.



PolyMem Cloth-Backed Adhesive Dressings:

A breathable, adhesive-coated cloth backing that provides exceptional comfort for your patient.



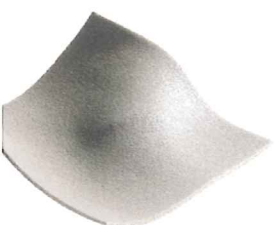
PolyMem Cavity Wound Filler:

Will expand within the wound cavity to fill dead space, keeping the wound bed clean and moisturized while absorbing excess fluid. Also available with nanocrystalline silver (PolyMem Silver).



PolyMem Silver® Dressing

In selecting a dressing containing silver, clinicians' wound care concerns are much the same as when not using a silver dressing: obtain and maintain a clean wound bed, absorb excess exudate, and add moisture if the wound is dry, while also filling, covering, and protecting the wound. The silver difference is bioburden management.



These dressings were found to be the most absorptive silver-containing dressing of the six dressings tested independently.¹³ This same university-based team evaluated the dressings to determine which caused the least cell damage. The laboratory studies were selected to represent healing

dermal and epidermal tissue conditions. The researchers reported PolyMem Silver dressings performed very favorably in the testing. They also stated that the PolyMem Silver dressing

has less silver released into the carrier medium and thus it appears to be "locking-up" the silver in the dressing. This is potentially a very good feature of a silver-based dressing where the bacterial "kill zone" is in the dressing rather than in the wound, thus avoiding the "collateral" damage to the healthy cells within the wound¹³.

PolyMem Silver dressings have been used to help jump-start stalled wounds,¹⁴ manage wounds in patients prone to infection,¹⁵ and help manage infected wounds¹⁶ when the underlying cause of the infection has been addressed.

POLYMEM DRESSING SELECTION GUIDE

WOUND PHASE &
EXUDATE LEVEL



NON-INFECTED

POLYMEM

For initial days of
PolyMem usage

POLYMEM MAX

**POLYMEM Wic +
POLYMEM MAX**

CRITICALLY
COLONIZED,
INFECTED, OR
AT RISK*

POLYMEM SILVER

For initial days of
PolyMem usage

POLYMEM MAX SILVER

**POLYMEM Wic SILVER +
POLYMEM MAX SILVER**

* PolyMem Silver dressings are suitable to use when visible signs of infection are present. Proper medical treatment should be used to address the underlying cause of the infection.

CAVITY &
DERMINING;
UNNEEDED
ROPE
(IN COMBINATION
WITH ABOVE DRESSINGS)

POLYMEM Wic (NON-INFECTED)

POLYMEM Wic SILVER AND POLYMEM Wic SILVER ROPE (CRITICALLY COLONIZED, INFECTED AND AT RISK)

† If you have any doubt about the management, please contact your local specialist or refer to local guidelines. Always refer to Instructions For Use.

INITIAL PROTOCOL†

- Prepare the wound according to facility protocol or as directed by a physician
- **IMPORTANT:** Due to the hydrophilic nature of PolyMem, an increase in fluid output is likely to take place (this is a positive thing!). As a result:
 - » Change dressing more frequently the first 1 to 2 weeks, or
 - » Select a dressing designed for one fluid level higher than currently experienced
- Select a dressing with a membrane 0.6 cm - 5.0 cm larger than the wound size.
- If using PolyMem Wic wound filler, loosely apply to the wound cavity - cut the dressing 1/3 smaller than the wound diameter and depth as it will expand by 1/3 as it absorbs exudate. Use the appropriate PolyMem dressing for the secondary cover dressing.
- Mark appropriate wound margins on the back (printed side) of the dressing. Apply with the printed side out.

CHANGE PROTOCOL†

- **IMPORTANT:** Change dressing when the absorbed exudate reaches the approximate edge of the wound margins to help reduce the risk of periwound maceration or after 7 days - whichever comes first.
- If using PolyMem Wic, change before the wound fluid, visible through the top of the secondary dressing, reaches the approximate edge of the wound margin, whenever good practice dictates that the filler should be changed, or after 7 days - whichever comes first.
- IN MOST CASES, THERE IS NO NEED TO DISTURB OR CLEANSE THE WOUND BED BETWEEN OR DURING DRESSING CHANGES.

Less Pain



PolyMem dressings help reduce wound pain associated with dressing changes:

Dressings which stick to the wound bed cause wound pain and trauma when they are removed during dressing changes and are also associated with delayed healing.^{17,18} PolyMem dressings are non-adherent to the wound bed.¹⁷

- Cleansing wounds is known to cause wound pain during dressing changes.¹⁸ PolyMem dressings usually eliminate the need for wound bed cleansing during dressing changes.
- PolyMem dressings facilitate effective autolytic debridement, reducing the need for more painful debridement options.

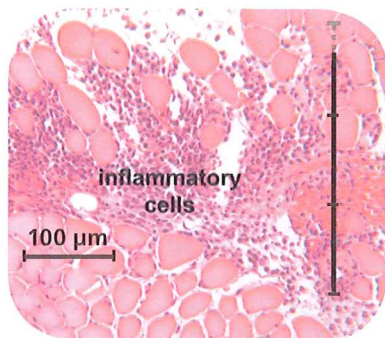
PolyMem also helps reduce wound pain by altering the functions of certain pain-sensing nerve endings.¹⁹

The most common cause of pain in chronic wounds is tissue damage, which is referred to as nociceptive pain or inflammatory pain.^{20,21} Nerve damage is another cause of wound pain and is called neuropathic pain.^{20,21} Neuropathic pain is often experienced after chronic unrelieved nociceptive pain.^{20,21}

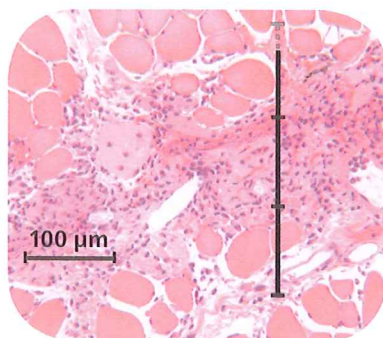
PolyMem formulation dressings help to inhibit the action of some of the pain-sensing nerve fibers (nociceptors) which carry some of the pain messages after tissue-damaging injuries and inflammation.¹⁹ These nerve endings transmit information that can result in 1) allodynia (pain caused

by normally non-painful stimuli, such as lightly brushing the skin); 2) primary hyperalgesia (increased sensitivity to pain at the site of injury), and 3) secondary hyperalgesia (pain caused by touching an uninjured area surrounding the injured site).^{21,22,23} These populous nerve endings, found in the epidermis, dermis, muscle, joints and viscera, are also responsible for spreading the inflammatory reaction into surrounding uninjured tissues.^{20,21,22,23,24} The spreading of the inflammatory reaction is often clinically evidenced by increased temperature, pain, bruising and swelling beyond the immediate zone of injury.^{21,24}

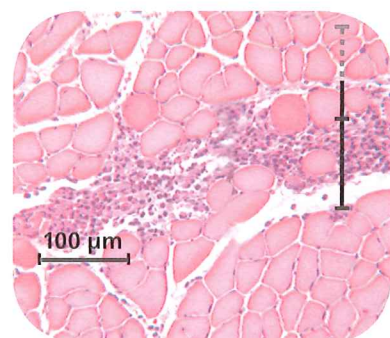
POLYMEM HELPS REDUCE SPREAD OF INFLAMMATORY REACTION INTO SURROUNDING, UNINJURED AREAS



(A) Incision only

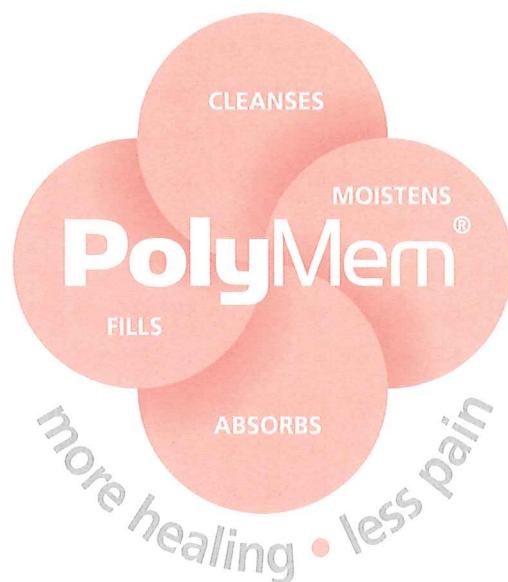


(B) Incision with gauze



(C) Incision with PolyMem

This series of images shows the width of the spread of the inflammatory cells, in muscle, around an incision. The dark portion of the scale in each image (each segment is 100μm) represents the spread of the zone of the inflammatory reaction around the center line of the incision. In images A and B, there is no difference in the spread of the inflammatory reaction around the center of the injury. In image C, notice how PolyMem reduces the spread of the inflammation into the surrounding tissue. Statistically, PolyMem reduces the spread of the inflammatory reaction into the surrounding undamaged tissue by approximately 25 percent.¹⁹



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