Study to Determine Ease of Handling of a Non-Adhering Silicone Primary Wound Contact Layer* Compared to Commercially Available Wound Contact Layers

Sally Stephens, Priyesh Mistry, Patrick Brosnan
Systagenix Wound Management, Gargrave, UK

OBJECTIVE
Survey evaluating clinical opinion on different wound contact layers and determining preferences

ABSTRACT
Introduction
To assist with dressing application, some wound contact layers have soft "tack" properties which enable clinicians to apply the dressing without slippage. As a consequence, these dressings can be more difficult to handle than non-tacky dressings in terms of removal from protective papers, cutting etc. The aim of this study was to allow wound care professionals to assess the ease of handling of a non-adhering silicone primary wound contact layer* compared to three commercially available wound contact layers.

Method
Thirteen (13) clinicians were asked to provide feedback on four different wound contact layers, including a non-adhering silicone primary wound contact layer*, via an open discussion and questionnaire focus group session. The interactive session focused on how easily the clinicians felt each product would be to open the packaging, handle the product prior to application and apply on a patient.

Results and Conclusion
Seventy percent of the clinicians included in the study were users of one or more of the commercially available products under assessment. No clinicians had prior knowledge of the non-adhering silicone primary wound contact layer* as it was not commercially available at the time of the study. This notwithstanding, this wound contact layer* received the highest number of positive responses and the lowest number of negative responses and was rated overall easiest to handle in four of the five categories assessed. The results demonstrate that the non-adhering wound contact layer* was easy to handle even when compared to products with which the clinicians were familiar.

ADAPTIC TOUCH™ non-adhering silicone wound contact layer, SYSTAGENIX