TITLE: Pixalere™ Wound Management in Home Care: Clinical and Cost-Effectiveness

DATE: 27 November 2008

RESEARCH QUESTION:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of the Pixalere™ wound care management system for home care patients?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of the Pixalere™ wound care management system for home care patients?

METHODS:

We contacted ECRI’s hotline service to request information on Pixalere™ wound management in home care: clinical and cost-effectiveness. The ECRI document is attached, and the randomized controlled trial (RCT) and observational study abstracts they identified are included below.

Supplemental searches for reports from Canadian health technology assessment agencies were performed, along with European sources including the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE).

RESULTS:

ECRI provided the following document, which is a guide to the available evidence on the topic with context about the evidence provided by ECRI. It is based solely on a review of the article abstracts, not an analysis of full published articles.

Hotline response:

References and abstracts from the RCT and observational studies identified by ECRI are included below. One observation study regarding the use of the Pixalere™ wound management system was identified. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, economic evaluations, RCTs, or controlled clinical trials were identified from the literature search results. Additional articles of interest are located in the appendix.

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, HTAs, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by economic studies, RCTs, and observational studies.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

One observational study examining the use of the Pixalere™ wound management system was identified. Loyola conducted a survey to evaluate client and staff acceptance and satisfaction with the Pixalere™ system. The system was used in three communities within the Thompson Cariboo Shuswap (TCS) Health Service Area, located in the interior of British Columbia. This pilot project did not include the use of wireless data transfer from the client’s homes. Community nurses transmitted the data to the database from their office, at which time a wound nurse examined the wound photos and clinical information. After using the system for approximately ten months, clients and staff were surveyed. Community nurses and clients who participated in the survey considered Pixalere™ to be an acceptable approach to wound care. The use of the wound care system increased the client’s accessibility to wound care specialists. Participating staff expressed a high degree of satisfaction with the system. Nurses reported that the clients were comfortable with the use of this technology in their homes and that the technology was well accepted. Loyola indicated that recommendations from the survey results support the expansion of the technology throughout the Interior Health region.

An additional randomized controlled trial and several observational studies examining other remote wound imaging systems may be found in the appendix.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED:

Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified

Economic analyses and cost information
No literature identified

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified

Controlled clinical trials
No literature identified

Observational studies

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Randomized controlled trials-other systems


Observational studies-other systems


Review articles


Additional references

