TITLE: Prophylactic Use of Silver-Based Microbial Products for Surgical Patients: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines

DATE: 27 March 2009

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What clinical evidence exists for the prophylactic use of silver-based microbial products against surgical site infection?

2. What are the guidelines for the prophylactic use of silver-based microbial products against surgical site infection?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 1, 2009), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2004 and March 2009, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

RESULTS:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, observational studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

One randomized controlled trial and six observational studies were identified pertaining to the prophylactic use of silver-based microbial products for prevention of surgical site infection. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, controlled clinical trials, or evidence-based guidelines were identified. Additional information that may be of interest is included in the appendix.

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Health technology assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized controlled trials


Controlled clinical trials
No literature identified.

Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations
No literature identified.

PREPARED BY:
Kristen Moulton, BA, Research Assistant
Charlene Argáez, MLIS, Information Specialist
Health Technology Inquiry Service
Email: htis@cadth.ca
Tel: 1-866-898-8439
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Observational studies


Review articles


Additional references