



OXYGENESYS™
Dissolved Oxygen Dressing

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the indications for the OxyGenesys Dressing?

The OxyGenesys Dressing is an enriched topical hydrophilic closed cell foam wound dressing indicated for use in the management of acute and chronic wounds. The OxyGenesys Dressing is intended as a primary topical wound contact dressings for use in the management of wound exudates for wounds such as pressure ulcers, stasis ulcers, diabetic ulcers, first and second degree burns, lacerations, puncture wounds, abrasions, skin tears, surgical incision sites, device insertion site wounds, graft sites, and donor sites.

2. Which wound/patient is a good candidate for the OxyGenesys Dressing?

Many wound healing functions benefit from oxygen. These include cellular proliferation, collagen production, angiogenesis, cell signaling and antimicrobial action of white cells. Patients with chronic wounds may have deficiencies in one or more of the functions. Supplemental oxygen may help the closure of chronic wounds.

3. What are the available sizes for the OxyGenesys Dressing?

OxyGenesys Dressing is currently available in 4.25 inch x 4.25 inch and 2 inch x 2 inch dressings. It is also available in perforated form (for wounds with excessive exudates) in the 4.25 inch x 4.25 inch size. Additional sizes and configurations are currently being developed.

4. How is a non-standard sized or shaped wound covered with the OxyGenesys Dressing?

If a wound is smaller than the dressing, the dressing may be cut to cover the wound and the wound margins. There is no harm in allowing the dressing to cover intact skin. For wounds larger than the dressing, multiple dressings may be placed side-by-side.

5. How much exudate will the OxyGenesys Dressing hold?

The dressings will typically hold over 10X their weight in fluid.

6. How often should the OxyGenesys Dressing be changed?

The OxyGenesys Dressing should be changed every 24 – 48 hours, or more frequently, depending on amount of exudate.

7. How long can the OxyGenesys Dressing stay in place?

Disappearance of or dramatic reduction in the visible bubbles is a clue that the oxygen is depleted and that the dressing should be changed.

8. When should the perforated OxyGenesys™ Dressing be used instead of the non-perforated dressing?

The perforated dressing with holes can be used when the exudate flow is especially heavy and may otherwise overwhelm the absorbent capacity of the dressing. It should be backed by an absorbent layer such as gauze, which can be changed leaving the OxyGenesys Dressing in place.

9. Can the OxyGenesys Dressing be used on a dry wound?

Yes. In order to get the dissolved O₂ contact started more rapidly, the dressing should be moistened with saline or water before application. However, pre-moistening is not required as the surrounding skin's own moisture will, in time, trigger the O₂ diffusion.

10. How does the gaseous O₂ get out of the OxyGenesys Dressing and into the wound?

The same way that gaseous oxygen in the atmosphere gets to the gills of fish. The dressing is composed of essentially two materials. One is the matrix and the other is the oxygen. The matrix contains a significant amount of water so that each oxygen bubble is suspended in an aqueous environment. The oxygen dissolves in the water. When the dressing is placed on a wound, the dissolved oxygen rapidly diffuses into the tissue underneath the dressing.¹⁻²

11. Why doesn't the oxygen migrate or evaporate out of the OxyGenesys Dressing instead of going into the wound?

Such an event would happen over time. However, water in the dressing doesn't "give" oxygen back to the atmosphere very readily. For the gaseous oxygen to escape to the atmosphere, it must move through the aqueous part of the dressing. Excess heat would cause a more rapid decay in oxygen content of the dressing. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that the dressings be stored refrigerated.

12. How much dissolved O₂ gets into the wound?

It is difficult to quantitate the exact amount of oxygen that enters the wound because it is rapidly consumed by metabolic processes. The OxyGenesys system is intended to replenish that deficit by creating a diffusion gradient between the dressing and the wound bed.

13. Can the OxyGenesys Dressing be used alone as a catheter securement device?

No. OxyGenesys Dressing is not an adhesive film dressing. It is an absorbent foam dressing intended to deliver dissolved oxygen to the wound tissues. Its shape and form will change as oxygen is depleted. Therefore, an adhesive dressing, such as ON-Q® SilverDressing®, may be used to keep the OxyGenesys Dressing in place.

14. Why does the OxyGenesys Dressing need to be refrigerated?

Shelf life studies have shown that the O₂ remains longer in refrigerated conditions. The OxyGenesys Dressing must be stored at or below 4°C/38°F to prevent loss of oxygen.

15. Why is the OxyGenesys Dressing shipped at room temperature, and yet it is recommended to be refrigerated when received?

Although OxyGenesys dressings are stored refrigerated (strongly recommended), it has been found that short exposure to room temperature during expedited shipment does not significantly affect the shelf life of the dressing. Storage temperatures above 4°C/38°F should be avoided as such exposure will shorten the effective shelf-life of the dressing.

16. What happens if the OxyGenesys Dressing is frozen? Can it be stored in the freezer instead?

The OxyGenesys Dressing may be stored in frozen conditions, down to -16°C/3°F. Be sure to thaw the dressing in the refrigerator before application.

17. Are there types of wounds that the OxyGenesys Dressing should not be used on?

There are no contra-indications for OxyGenesys Dressings.

18. Since the OxyGenesys Dressing has gaseous O₂, will it explode or burn if it gets hot?

OxyGenesys dressings will not spontaneously combust. Furthermore, the dressings have been subjected to ignition testing and they do not undergo any unusual eruption when exposed to naked flame. This is most likely due to the fact that the oxygen is within closed cells surrounded by water.

19. Is the OxyGenesys Dressing an antimicrobial dressing?

Elemental oxygen is known to have an antimicrobial effect on anaerobic bacteria; however, no specific antimicrobial testing has been conducted with this product.

20. Can the OxyGenesys Dressing be used over a silver antimicrobial contact layer or silver gel?

The OxyGenesys Dressing's dissolved oxygen migrates via diffusion; therefore, the dressing must be in contact with moisture which in turn is in contact with the wound bed. The product is designed to be the primary contact material and should not have any other sheet style dressing between it and the wound. However, although there are currently no studies to support this, it should be acceptable to place an amorphous hydrogel between the dressing and the wound bed because of the substantial moisture content, which should still allow diffusion of the oxygen.

21. Can the perforated the OxyGenesys Dressing be used under the VAC™?

There are currently no studies to support this, but the perforated form of the dressing is not expected to adversely affect the function of the VAC and vice versa.

22. What kind of clinical support is available?

OxyGenesys dressings have been in use in a number of wound care clinics nationwide. Case studies are available (upon request at I-Flow Corporation) while clinical studies are in progress.

23. Is the OxyGenesys Dressing reimbursed?

No. As with all new wound care products, OxyGenesys products are not yet reimbursed.

1. Roe D, et al. A laboratory evaluation of topical oxygen delivery devices intended to promote wound healing. *Presented at 16th Annual Meeting of the Wound Healing Society, Scottsdale, AZ. May 2006.*

2. Roe D, Berg C, et al. An evaluation of a topical dissolved oxygen delivery device on dermal cell viability. *Presented at 18th Annual Meeting of the Wound Healing Society, San Diego, CA. April 2008.*

OXYGENESYS™

dressings may be
ordered through I-Flow
sales representatives
or by calling I-Flow
Customer Service at
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