# SKIN TEARS IN THE ELDERLY : WOUNDS THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO TREAT

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(Translation ReSkin Medical NV)

### What is a skin tear?

It is a detachment of the superficial dermis associated with minimal trauma during shock or manipulation. It is a predominantly acute wound to the limbs, most often leaving a skin flap and an underlying hemorrhagic area. Its prevalence is underestimated, and is probably higher than that of pressure ulcers.

### What are the predisposing factors?

Skin tears are promoted by skin aging, which leads to thinning of the skin, loss of elasticity and reduced tensile strength.There are other precipitating factors such as: dehydration, undernutrition, drugs (corticoids, anticoagulants, antiaggregants), sensory and motor disorders, cognitive disorders...

## What kind of care?

- Control bleeding,
- Clean with saline,
- + Appreciate the vitality of the flap and reposition it,
- Do not suture the wound,
- No consensus on the type of dressing to be applied.

## How can they be prevented?

- Careful handling of the patient,
- Twice-daily skin moisturization of risk areas,
- Wear suitable clothing (long sleeves),
- Use of specific polymer gel skin protectors.

# An innovative bandage: SPYCRA Protect<sup>®</sup>

- It is an interface consisting of elastic Lycra<sup>®</sup> fibers coated with silicone on one side.
  - The dressing is micro-adherent, conformable and repositionable.
- It is applied directly to the wound after replacing the skin flap without traction.
- The dressing is left on for an average of 7 days until the flap is reattached.



#### Patient 1 (UGA): 92-year-old man, COPD under inhaled corticosteroid therapy. Hand wound.



**D0** 



D0: Repositioning of the flap



D0: Coverage by the dressing



After 7 days

D + 7 days: Removal of the dressing

#### Patient 2 (USLD) : 90-year-old woman, leg wound against her wheelchair



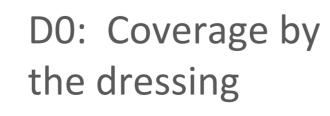
D0



D0: Repositioning of







After 9 days

D + 9 days: Removal of the dressing

Conclusion

the flap

Skin tears are a frequent wound in geriatrics, difficult to treat.

+ A new conformable dressing allows a simple, quick, inexpensive, painless and patient

friendly management of these wounds, with a very satisfactory functional result.

**CROIX-ROUGE** française PARTOUT OÙ VOUS AVEZ BESOIN DE NOUS