

Mepilex AG (Transfer) dressing

What is Mepilex AG (Transfer)

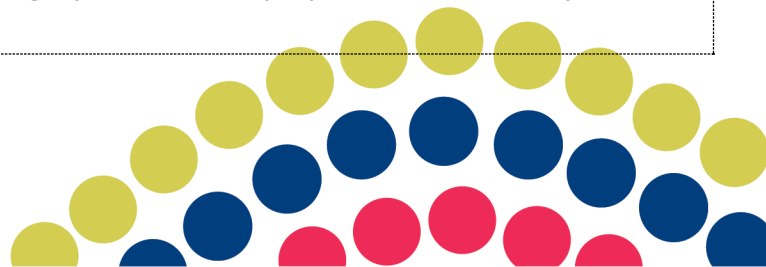
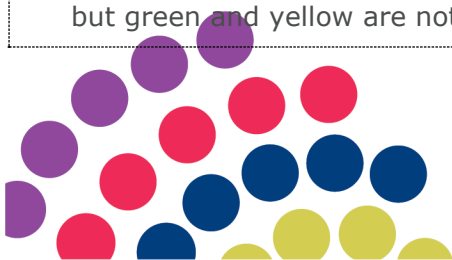
- > Mepilex Ag is an absorbent flexible, silver foam dressing used on superficial to partial thickness burns/wounds. It provides an effective barrier which will protect the wound from infection.
- > Mepilex Ag has a soft silicone layer which comes into direct contact with the wound bed. It is used on low to moderately weeping/oozing wounds.
- > Mepilex Ag is designed to reduce trauma to the wound bed and reduce pain to the patient.

Daily maintenance

- > Mepilex Ag is a foam and therefore must not get wet.
- > You will need to sponge bath your child rather than placing him/her into a bath or shower.
- > If this does get wet you will need to return to the hospital for a new dressing to be applied.
- > The dressing is usually secured with a white adhesive dressing called hypafix.
- > Reinforce any of the hypafix if required.
- > If you have been given tubigrip stockings or vests remove for sponging and replace with clean ones daily (handwash with soap and water).
- > You can now dress your child normally.

Care of the dressing

- > Try not to allow the dressing to become wet or dirty.
- > Your child should not play in sand or dirt as this may get into the burn dressing, causing infection.
- > Your child must not swim in pools or at the beach.
- > Your child may find that their clothes get wet from the dressing. You may therefore need to change their clothes more frequently.
- > The hypafix may become a stained brown colour over the duration of the dressing. This colour change is acceptable.
- > Mepilex Ag may exhibit some colour changes other than grey. This happens when exudate interacts with the dressing. Colours may be greys, browns or purple and this is acceptable, but green and yellow are not.



For more information

Burns and Plastics Services
Women's and Children's Hospital
72 King William Rd, North Adelaide SA 5006
Telephone (08) 8161 7235



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Women's and Children's
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Pain relief

- > Simple over-the-counter painkillers such as Ibuprofen (Brufen®/Nurofen®) or Paracetamol (Panamax®/Panadol®/ Dymadon®) can be used for pain and discomfort.
- > Elevation of affected area will also assist (limbs placed on pillows).

Itching

- > Itching can be part of the healing process.
- > If itching is bothering your child an antihistamine such as Cetirizine (Zyrtec®) can help (over the counter).

Preparation for follow – up appointment

- > Read through **Words I can use to help my child during a procedure** Consumer Health Information to assist you in preparing your child for a dressing change
- > Apply olive oil/vegetable oil to the white tape (Hypafix) one hour before the appointment and wrap the area in cling film. This will assist with removal of the dressing at your appointment.
- > Give your child a dose of Paracetamol or Ibuprofen one hour prior to the appointment. This will help to reduce the discomfort.

Outpatients Clinics

Burns

Tuesday and Friday – Paediatric Outpatient Department Area 3

Wednesday – Fracture Clinic on the Ground Floor

Day cases – Day Surgery 3rd Floor Good Friday Building

Plastics

Monday and Thursday - Paediatric Outpatient Department Area 2

Wednesday dressing clinic Paediatric Outpatient Department Area 2

Friday - Paediatric Outpatient Department Area 2

If you are concerned about any of the following please bring your child in to the WCH Paediatric Emergency Department or to your nearest Emergency Department/GP. Burns patients can contact the Burns Nurse Consultant during office hours on (08) 8161 7000

- > If the bandage becomes loose or falls off
- > If the bandage becomes very smelly
- > If your child is extremely itchy or uncomfortable (not relieved by simple pain relief or anti – itch medications)
- > If the dressing has any ooze on it i.e. green/yellow or blood stained.

If you are concerned about any of the following bring your child in to WCH Paediatric Emergency Department or to your nearest Emergency Department/GP.

- > If your child develops or shows signs of:
 - > Fever (over 38.5)
 - > Vomiting or diarrhoea
 - > Rash
 - > Irritability/drowsiness
 - > Poor feeding
 - > Disinterest in surrounding

