

Excellagen®—Advanced Wound Care Made Simple

By Lois A Chandler, PhD

Cardium Therapeutics, and its subsidiary Tissue Repair Company, recently introduced **Excellagen Formulated Collagen Gel (2.6%)** to the U.S. wound care market. Excellagen is cleared by the FDA for the management of a variety of dermal wounds, including: partial and full-thickness wounds,

pressure ulcers, venous ulcers, diabetic ulcers, chronic vascular ulcers, tunneled/undermined wounds, surgical wounds (donor sites/grfts, post-Mohs surgery, post-laser surgery, podiatric, wound dehiscence), trauma wounds, and draining wounds.

Excellagen was commercialized following findings from a Phase 2b clinical study in diabetic foot ulcers in which a single topical application of formulated collagen gel (2.6%) immediately accelerated healing rates.¹ This immediate effect was statistically significant compared to healing rates seen with standard of care (wound debridement, daily moist dressing changes, off-loading).

Cardium received FDA 510(k) clearance for Excellagen in October 2011, and the product was introduced to market in March 2012.

Physician surveys conducted by Cardium have indicated that while there are a variety of available treatment options, ranging from simple gauze to complex skin substitutes; there is no one product currently dominating the diabetic foot ulcer market. Physicians are often forced to take a multi-product “let’s try this next” approach to heal wounds. Surveyed physicians are in search of wound-care products



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that are user-friendly, easy to apply, have quick preparation time, and require less frequent administration than currently available products. Excellagen fulfills these needs.

Excellagen is a professional-use, highly purified, formulated, fibrillar collagen topical gel of bovine origin that is manufactured to strict quality and safety standards. Excellagen is supplied sterile in prefilled, ready-to-use syringes and is stored at standard refrigeration temperatures. It requires no

product thawing or mixing required before use. Furthermore, there is no trimming or suturing required during application of Excellagen. The versatile, dripless, adherent gel formulation allows for easy application and complete coverage of wounds of varied etiology, shape, size and surface contour.

Excellagen is supplied in a kit containing four sterile, single-use syringes and four sterile single-use applicators; one syringe containing 0.5 cc covers wounds up to 5cm². Because of its specialized formulation, Excellagen adheres to many wound surfaces and can be applied to complicated wound areas.

Excellagen is recommended for use following sharp debridement, in the presence of a small influx of blood cells and platelets. Therefore, Excellagen fits readily into existing, first-line wound care practices. Following FDA clearance, Cardium conducted additional studies showing that

Excellagen activates platelets, triggering the release of

Excellagen’s traits are more likely to promote patient compliance than other treatment modalities requiring frequent product application, daily dressing changes, and frequent doctor visits.

Platelet-Derived Growth Factor (PDGF), a recognized and essential facilitator of wound healing.²

In addition to being easy to apply, daily dressing changes are not required with Excellagen, and reapplication is performed no more than once per week (typically every one to two weeks based on the physician’s assessment of the wound and response to treatment). These traits are beneficial to both patient and physician, and are more likely to promote patient compliance than other treatment modalities requiring frequent product application, daily dressing changes, and frequent doctor visits. Excellagen’s practical and economic benefits also extend to a variety of clinical settings, ranging from a podiatrist’s office to a hospital or skilled nursing care facility where patients are less able to care for a wound themselves and staff resources are costly and/or constrained.

In one recent case study in a diabetic foot ulcer of 16 weeks duration Dr. Curtis Long of Walla Walla, Washington, remarked, “I noticed healing accelerated after the first week. I was pleasantly surprised.” Case studies may be viewed at www.excellagen.com.

For more information about Excellagen, visit www.excellagen.com or call 858-436-1009, or circle #156 on the reader service card.

To order Excellagen, call 855-798-6483.

¹ Blume et al., *Wound Repair and Regeneration* 19: 302-308 (2011)

² In vitro data on file at Cardium

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