

Cost Effectiveness of Fish Skin Grafts Versus Standard of Care on Wound Healing of Chronic Diabetic Foot Ulcers: A Retrospective Comparative Cohort Study

Christopher Winters, DPM; Robert S. Kirsner, MD, PhD; David J. Margolis, MD, PhD; and John C. Lantis, II, MD Wounds 2020:32(10):283–290.

The objective of this retrospective, comparative cohort study is to compare the rates of healing, number of amputations, and the cost/ utility of treating diabetic foot ulcers (DFUs) using either standard of care (SOC) alone or SOC combined with intact fish skin. The treatment data of 59 DFUs was collected over 3 years. The cost data was collected from a medical literature review of articles published between 2000 to 2018. Based on the Markov model, the study concludes that the addition of fish skin to SOC for the treatment of DFUs reduces costs while improving patient outcomes.



Non-industry funded, independent study

#### **Patient Cohort Characteristics**

59 DFUs treated



3.7cm<sup>2</sup>
Avg Wound
Size



#### **Conclusions**

33% Fewer amputations



31% More DFUs healed



26% Less cost / wound over 1 year



12% Greater quality of life over 1 year Quality
Adjusted
Life
Years

## NNT = 5

5 patients treated with fish skin prevents one additional bad outcome



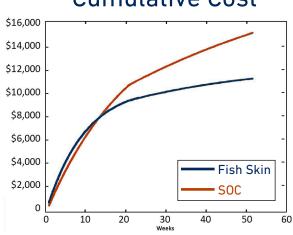
# 3 Months

Fish skin healed faster than SOC

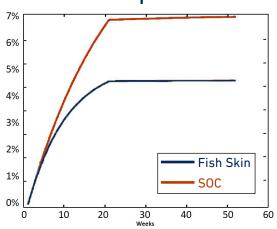


### **Study Graphs and Data Summary**

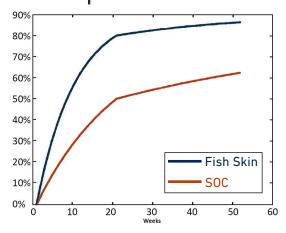
## **Cumulative Cost**



### **Total Amputations**



## **Proportion Healed**



Category	Kerecis	SOC	Δ
Cumulative Cost	\$11,240	\$15,075	26%
Total Amputations	4.6%	6.9%	33%
Proportion Healed	83.2%	63.4%	31%



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