

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Triad<sup>®</sup> Hydrophilic Wound Dressing

### What is Triad?

Triad is a sterile coating that offers a unique approach to wound management. It can be applied anywhere, adheres to wet skin, and keeps the wound covered.

### What are the indications and contraindications of Triad?

Triad is indicated for the local management of partial- and full-thickness pressure and venous stasis ulcers, dermal lesions/injuries, and first and second-degree burns. Triad is contraindicated for third degree burns and infected wounds. Triad is only sterile on first application.

Triad is an ideal dressing choice for difficult-to-dress wounds on wet or irregular surfaces. Irregular surfaces could include the gluteal cleft, coccyx, perineum, buttocks, groin, face, hands, feet and other areas. Triad adheres to wet skin, and can be used on broken skin in the presence of incontinence, or maceration of the peri-wound skin. Triad facilitates autolytic debridement to help manage necrotic tissue such as slough and eschar.

### How does Triad work?

Triad can be used on the wound or peri-wound skin, and stays in place on irregular surfaces. Triad contains carboxymethyl cellulose (CMC) which allows it to adhere to wet, moist, or macerated skin. It contains dimethicone to moisturize the peri-wound skin and petrolatum and zinc oxide to reduce skin irritation.

Triad is occlusive and does not allow anything to pass through it. Triad is hydrophilic, which means that natural moisture spreads evenly across the wound surface, maximizing contact and creating a moist environment. A moist wound environment facilitates autolytic debridement, where the body's own enzymes break down necrotic tissue. CMC allows Triad to absorb low to moderate levels of wound exudate or broken-down tissue.

### What ingredients does Triad contain?

Triad contains a unique preservative-free blend of carboxymethyl cellulose (CMC), dimethicone, petrolatum, and zinc oxide. The percentage of each ingredient is proprietary information.

### What is the best way to apply and remove Triad?

Always cleanse the wound before applying Triad. Because Triad is designed for use on wet and irregular surfaces it is typically used on its own without a secondary dressing. Triad can be applied directly from the tube or by using a gloved finger. Gently spread Triad evenly over the area of application to the thickness of a dime. Triad may not always dry completely and some light staining on bed linens or garments might occur. To help prevent staining cover Triad with a dry piece of gauze.

For wounds with depth, impregnate gauze with Triad. Fold or fluff the gauze to fit within the wound bed, and loosely pack into the wound and areas of undermining or tunneling. Make sure to place impregnated gauze in such a way that it can easily be removed, and cover the wound with a secondary dressing.

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Due to the zinc oxide, Triad should be removed with a commercial wound cleanser (not saline). Use a pH-balanced wound cleanser to soften Triad, and gently wipe to remove without scrubbing. For complete removal repeat as needed. Triad can stay in place for 5-7 days, with higher exudate levels requiring more frequent re-applications. In the perineal area, reapply Triad after each episode of incontinence.

### **If a secondary dressing is being used with Triad, what type is recommended?**

The use of a secondary dressing is not routinely necessary. To protect Triad from rubbing off on linen or clothing, a dry piece of gauze, a silicone contact layer, or silicone foam dressing could be used. For wounds with depth, where Triad is used with impregnated gauze, the use of a secondary dressing is recommended. In this case a silicone foam dressing could be used.

### **What can be done for difficult-to-dress wounds near the coccyx and lower sacrum when loose stool is involved?**

Sometimes a zinc oxide skin protectant is used for this indication, but it does not adhere to a wet surface and it comes off easily. Triad is a zinc oxide based hydrophilic wound dressing that adheres to wet, eroded skin which makes it an ideal dressing choice for difficult-to-dress wounds in the sacral area.

### **Can Triad be used on venous weeping legs with skin maceration?**

Triad can adhere to wet, eroded skin including macerated skin. It has a unique preservative-free blend of ingredients that includes zinc oxide which makes it safe to use on the peri-wound area and helps to reduce skin irritation. Triad will adhere to weeping skin, although higher levels of exudate will require more frequent re-applications.

### **Can Triad be used as a skin protectant for patients with incontinence?**

There is no contraindication to use Triad as a skin protectant, although for this use a skin barrier cream or ointment is recommended. Triad may be used when there is a breach in the integrity of the skin or an open area such as a dermal lesion.

### **Is the use of Triad cost-effective?**

On wet or irregular surfaces, dressings may not always stay in place. This could have a large impact on the health system, including avoidable costs related to using extra dressings, increased workload for nurses replacing dressings, or delayed wound healing impacting the total cost of care. Refer to our Estimated Savings Guide to calculate potential savings based on information from your facility. Coloplast does not guarantee any amount of cost savings, this tool is for estimation purposes only. Prices of Triad may vary locally, contact your local representative for more information.

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