

MANAGEMENT OF STEVENS-JOHNSONS SYNDROME AND TOXIC EPIDERMAL NECROLYSIS

Written on 12/29/2015

Holly Waller

Introduction

Stevens-Johnsons syndrome (SJS) is generally classified by <10% TBSA affected, Toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN) is generally classified by >30% TBSA affected, with SJS/TEN overlap involves 15-30% of TBSA. The mortality rates can reach 5% with SJS and 35% with TEN, therefore early treatment of stopping the offending drugs, infection prevention with good skin care and nutritional support, can raise survival rates to 90%.

THE BURN SERVICE DOES NOT ADMIT SJS or TEN. These patients are admitted to medicine.

Initial evaluation from the ET/WOCNurse is to determine what percent of Total Body Surface Area (TBSA) is affected. If the percentage is greater than 30% the **Burn Dressing Team** will be consulted for dressing changes and hydrotherapy. If less than 30% then the staff nurses will have specific orders on how to order and change the dressings (see below).

Skin Care of Patients with Massive Tissue Loss

Equipment

Wound cleanser (Lawson 15913 or shur-clenz 556)

Mepilex lite Ag dressings (Lawson 94573 for an 8x20)

Gloves

Gauze 4x4s, kerlix

Cuticerin gauze (Lawson 69656 for 8x16)

Burn pads (Lawson 654)

Sterile towels

Implementation

The initial application of dressings will be:

1. Premedicate patient with prescribed medication
 2. If mobile or ambulatory, patient is to sit or stand in shower and gently cleanse affected areas. Remove any non-viable tissue.
 3. If bedbound, order and use wound cleanser (cleanser wound in Lawson or shur-clense) and gauze to gently clean affected areas. Remove any non-viable tissue.
 4. For large areas apply Mepilex Ag lite to affected areas, secure with kerlix
 5. For fingers/toes use Cuticerin (wide mesh) gauze (Lawson).
 6. Wrap with dry kerlix and kling
 7. If torso is involved, may wrap with kerlix (NO KLING).
- For larger areas on torso, order “burn pads” (Lawson) to cover these areas, may use sterile towels over shoulders and around waist if pads don’t meet. Use safety pins or tape to secure.
 - Mepilex stays in place for **ON FOR 5 DAYS. ONLY THE OUTER DRESSINGS** (kerlix, kling and burn pads) **ARE CHANGED** every other day [On the fifth day the Mepilex and all outer dressings are changed.]
-
-

