

## Burn dressing information

# Algisite M™

Algisite M is a calcium alginate dressing, which is sometimes referred to as a seaweed dressing. Algisite M is often used once a silver dressing has been used and no signs of infection are present.



Algisite M provides a moist wound healing environment by forming a gel at the wound surface by absorbing wound fluid. A moist (but not wet) wound environment helps healing.

Algisite M does not contain any antimicrobial ingredients and therefore is not used for infected wounds. Calcium alginate dressings can also be used to help stop wound bleeding.

### How frequently is Algisite M changed?

Algisite dressings are usually changed every two to three days. The frequency will be decided by your child's doctor or nurse.

### How do I care for the dressing?

The dressing must be kept clean, dry and in place as advised by your child's doctor or nurse. If the dressing is accidentally removed or becomes wet or dirty, please phone PCH Ward 1B as soon as possible to organise a new dressing.

### What do I need to look for?

Infection in burn patients can be very serious and must be treated urgently. Observe your child and the wound/dressing site frequently. Phone the PCH Ward 1B immediately on 6456 3630 if any of the following occur:

- a temperature below 35.5°C or above 38°C
- a rash, increased pain, redness or swelling at the wound site
- changes in behaviour such as poor appetite, sleep disturbances, lethargy (quiet, lack of energy or flat mood)
- excessive ooze/wound fluid (though a small amount is expected)
- offensive odour.



Government of Western Australia  
Child and Adolescent Health Service



#### Child and Adolescent Health Service

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