

Enabler #8: What does and does not go under compression?

Dressings intended to go under compression

- Antimicrobials (Bactigras™, Inadine™, Iodosorb™, Acticoat™ Flex 3)
- Alginates
- Hydrofibers
- Non-bordered Foams (Allevyn™ Non-Adhesive, Mepilex® Non-Bordered)
- Super absorbents (Sterisorb, Tranquility)

Dressings not intended to go under compression

- Gauze
- Wrapped gauze (Kling)
- Abdominal pads

Why?

- No vertical wicking properties, they absorb and stay wet
- Not manufactured to go under compression
- No flexibility with shifts in edema
- Potential tourniquet effect
- Requires daily change

References:

Exudate: The type and amount is telling you something, Wound Care Education Institute®, 2016
World Union of Wound Healing Societies (WUWHS), Consensus Document. Wound exudate: effective assessment and management, Wounds International, 2019