

# A Chronic Wound, Some Collagen and Cleaning Up the Micro Environment Documenting Observations

Sharon Brewer, RN, BSN

**Purpose:** To provide evidence that collagen, when added to a chronic wound, seems to coax the wound into the proliferative phase of wound healing in a clean, closed homeostatic microenvironment.

A variety of wounds were treated with bovine collagen, extended dressings to maintain homeostatic microenvironment and cleansed with an anti-microbial agent to reduce colony counts. The patients were chosen at random. their wounds were nearly free of necrotic tissue and no outward clinical signs of infection were present. The wounds varied in stage from II - IV. Age of wounds varied from one month to more than 2 years. The patients had variable underlying medical conditions, such as Diabetes Mellitus, Venous Stasis, Arterial Occlusion, CVA, Hip Fractures, Respiratory Ailments.

The Observable, photodocumented and predictable outcomes have been noted. 1) A shallow craterous wound (.3 - .4 cm deep) healed in 4 to 7 days and 2) If an underlying condition is not conducive to wound healing or the wound is larger than 3 cm, healing occurred between days 5 to 14. As the wound is healing, there is a color change to the periwound skin and a change in the dermal thickness. In the deep tissue, stage III to IV, within 4 days of one application, the granulation tissue has become "bubbly" in texture and richer in color.

While the aforementioned data was not collected in a scientifically controlled manner, the observations noted have been consistent and further investigation may be beneficial.