Treatment of plantar foot ulcers using Cutimed® Off-Loader Select, a new multi-layer, fiberglass total contact casting kit

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Introduction
Plantar pedal ulcers are a frustrating clinical challenge for wound care providers. Reducing pressure (offloading) at the wound site is the primary healing focus, and total contact casting remains underutilized. The labor-intensive procedure and specialized training are the main obstacles. The aim of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a Cutimed® Off-Loader Select, a new total contact casting kit (TCC), in eliminating the barriers to incorporating this procedure into daily practice to improve results. Cutimed® Off-Loader Select is pre-packaged with traditional application items, plus a 4x4 foam wound dressing for exudate control. Instructions are included, video and hands-on training tutorials are available.

Methods and Materials
Three patients presented with difficult to heal wounds ranging in duration from six months to several years. All patients were given an outpatient course of treatment combining hyperbaric oxygen therapy and Cutimed® Off-Loader Select.

Results
All wounds healed or nearly healed in under 17 weeks, specifically 28 days (healed), eleven weeks (healed) and 17 weeks (nearly healed with expectation of total healing).

Conclusion
The combination of HBOT and Cutimed® Off-Loader Select TCC proved successful in treating long-standing plantar foot ulcers. Application of this TCC kit is under 30 minutes, requiring only basic instruction and casting experience. Healing rates of plantar foot ulcerations are significantly improved with this treatment plan, which translates to a lower incidence of potential complications, and as an easy total casting kit, Cutimed® Off-Loader Select helps eliminate barriers to incorporating this procedure into daily practice and improving outcomes.