

Dry Socket Products in the Market

The FDA recently issued a permanent injunction barring the manufacturers of Canfield's Dry Socket Mini-Dressings from manufacturing and distributing unapproved drugs and drugs that do not satisfy current good manufacturing practice requirements. The following is a compilation of alternative treatment regimens for localized alveolar osteitis (LAO). This information is being distributed as a guide to those seeking approved effective treatment regimens for LAO. It is in no way being put forth as an all-inclusive listing.

RESORBABLE MATERIALS:

- Eugenol soaked gelfoam

- *Advantages:* Inexpensive. Resorbable, so one-time treatment with *prn* follow up possible.
- *Disadvantages:* Shorter term relief of symptoms versus nonresorbable dressings. Gelfoam difficult to handle once wet with Eugenol.

- Alvogyl (Septodont / 1-800-647-0643 /

www.septodont.ca/Septodont/english/product/surgery/palvoe.html)

- *Advantages:* Many OMS providers provided very positive first-hand experience with Alvogyl, citing its efficacy and the fact that it is resorbable.
- *Disadvantages:* Different consistency than most dressing materials - kind of like snuff chewing tobacco – so a little learning curve with handling and application exists. Not to be used on patients having a history of allergic reactions to procaine-type anesthetics or iodine.

NONRESORBABLE MATERIALS:

- **Sultan[®] Dry Socket Paste or Dry Socket Remedy** on gauze strip (Sultan Chemists / 85 West Forest Ave., Englewood, NJ, 07631 / 1-800-637-8582 / www.sultanhealthcare.com)
 - o *Advantages:* Commercially manufactured version of Tappe-type dressing paste. Proven track record of efficacy. Relatively easy to handle and apply.
 - o *Disadvantages:* Nonresorbable material; need for follow-up and removal.
- **Locally mixed Tappe paste on gauze strip**
 - o *Advantages:* Same as above
 - o *Disadvantages:* Pharmacies not as used to mixing these pastes up as they used to be prior to the availability of commercially manufactured dressing materials.
- **Dressol-X** (Rainbow[™] Specialty and Health Products, Inc. / 1-800-26-TEETH / www.rainbowspecialty.com/dressolx.htm)
 - o Commercially manufactured nonresorbable packing material with radiopaque marker
 - o *Advantages:* Pre-mixed, radiopaque marker. Easy to use and handle.
 - o *Disadvantages:* Contains aspirin, must not use on patients with ASA allergy or G6PD deficiency.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

- When using nonresorbable gauze strips as carrier for medicament:
 - o Whenever possible, use nonresorbable materials with radiopaque marker. **ACE Surgical Supply** (1034 Pearl St, Brockton, MA 02301 / 1-800-441-3100 / www.acesurgical.com) makes a ¼" gauze strip (**ACE New Gauze**), suitable for use in dry socket dressings, with a radiopaque filament sewn into it.
 - o Under no circumstances should more than one strip of any nonresorbable material ever be placed into any single extraction site.
 - o Under most circumstances, nonresorbable dressings should be removed within 48 – 72 hours. Redressing the site may be considered if severe symptoms persist.
 - o Removal of any nonresorbable dressing must be confirmed by the provider. If not visualized directly (i.e., patient reports "it fell out"), clinical and/or radiographic confirmation must be obtained.