

DermGEN™

PATIENT'S HANDOUT



Your healthcare provider has selected DermGEN™ to treat your wound. This handout provides you with information about DermGEN™. It is essential that you learn how it works, what to expect during healing, how you can help to ensure your wound healing, and what things to report to your Healthcare provider while you are using DermGEN™.



WHEN SHOULD I CONTACT MY HEALTHCARE PROVIDER ?

You should contact the healthcare provider who applied DermGEN™ immediately and book an appointment if you experience any of the following situations:

- Lots of fluid or blood appearing to soak through your bandage
- Significant pain that seems unusual
- Any other unusual feelings at the wound site
- A strong odour coming from your foot

Unsure about your healing? Contact your healthcare provider who can either re-assure you or redirect your treatment if necessary.

WHAT IS THE MAIN ADVANTAGE OF USING DermGEN™ COMPARED TO STANDARD TREATMENT ?

Research findings have shown that standard treatment only heals diabetic foot ulcers **40%** of the time and when they do it usually takes **12 weeks**. With DermGEN™ the healing of diabetic foot ulcers is achieved **>80%** of the time with closure of wound achieved -in most cases within **4 weeks**.



CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT DermGEN™ ?

You can ask your healthcare provider or go to the DermGEN™ website at <https://dermgen.ca>. Remember, you are not alone and have a team of people with you to help you heal your wound. This includes your primary practitioner, nurses and other clinical specialists.



WHAT IS DermGEN™ ?

DermGEN™ is a biological template created from skin that has been obtained from deceased human donors. During DermGEN™ 's manufacture the donor cells are removed to make it compatible with your body. It is also sterilized to provide utmost safety.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Once DermGEN™ is applied to your wound it begins to interact with your own cells by "reprogramming" them to be more effective in healing your wound. Over time, your cells absorb DermGEN™ and replace it with your own healthy tissue until your wound is completely healed.



WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT DURING TREATMENT ?

During treatment with DermGEN™ your healthcare provider will do the following:

- Apply a wound dressing (bandage) over DermGEN™ to protect it and prevent foreign materials (e.g. dirt) from getting in the wound,
- Keep the wound bed moisture under control,
- Ask you to attend weekly follow-ups to have your wound healing assessed and bandage changed.

WHAT CAN I DO TO SPEED-UP AND ENSURE HEALING ?

The most important thing to do is to listen carefully to your Healthcare provider and follow their instructions.

- Always "offload" or take weight & pressure off your wound area
- Keep your wound dry and away from water
- Do not remove the bandage or touch your wound without checking with your Healthcare provider first
- Come back when instructed to for follow-up and bandage changes



WHAT WILL HEALING LOOK LIKE WITH DermGEN™ ?

If you have been following all of your healthcare provider's instructions and there has been no incident affecting DermGEN™ healing, you should see the following changes in your wound.

- After one week of treatment, you should see that DermGEN™ has already started to attach to your body and new tissue forming along the wound edges.
- In the following weeks, you will see the wound take on a more typical "scab" like look of normal healing wounds.
- You will see that DermGEN™ will disappear, the wound will get smaller and new skin will cover your wound
- Most often, your wound should be closed (if no infection or injuries occurs) within 4 weeks after treatment and complete healing should be seen shortly afterward.