

Dedicated to Patsy Carter-Rattigan — our #1 patient who graciously volunteered to test Comfort Release® samples during our development.

We developed the Comfort Release® technology to help people of all ages who have experienced the discomfort or injury associated with the removal of bandages, medical tapes or dressings. Comfort Release® is recommended by doctors and nurses, caregivers and other patients - particularly for pediatric and geriatric patients.



COMFORTRELEASE.COM



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UNDERSTANDING + REDUCING THE RISK OF MARSI

MEDICAL ADHESIVE-RELATED SKIN INJURIES



MEET MARSI

// MEDICAL ADHESIVE-RELATED SKIN INJURY (MARSI)

A medical adhesive is "a product used to affix an external component (ie, tape, dressing, catheter, electrode, ostomy pouch, or patch) to the skin."¹

MARSI is a widely prevalent often painful but under-reported complication that can require additional expensive treatment.

MARSI can also increase infection risk, delay healing and can influence the patient's quality of life.¹

MARSI RISK FACTORS

Although many Medical Adhesive-Related Skin Injuries ("MARSI") are preventable, the pathophysiology of MARSI is still only partially understood. There are many intrinsic and extrinsic factors that can raise a patient's risk for MARSI. These include:

INTRINSIC RISK FACTORS

AGE EXTREMES neonate/premature infant and elderly

DEHYDRATION

DERMATOLOGIC CONDITIONS

e.g. dermatitis, eczema, epidermolysis bullosa, chronic exudative ulcers

ETHNICITY

MALNUTRITION

UNDERLYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS

e.g. diabetes, renal insufficiency, immunosuppression, infection, venous insufficiency, venous hypertension, peristomal varices

EXTRINSIC RISK FACTORS

DRY SKIN

due to low humidity, overbathing, harsh cleansers or high pH cleansers

PROLONGED MOISTURE EXPOSURE

RADIATION THERAPY

PHOTODAMAGE Exposure to sun

MEDICATION EFFECT

anticoagulants, anti-inflammatories, immunosuppressants, long-term corticosteroids

REPEATED ADHESIVE APPLICATION/REMOVAL

COVID-19

PROLONGED HOSPITALIZATIONS

MARSI CAN OCCUR IN VARIOUS WAYS

INCLUDING THESE PRESENTATIONS

1 / SKIN TEAR

A partial- or full- thickness wound caused by friction, shear or blunt force during the removal of an adhesive device.¹

2 / SKIN STRIPPING

Inadvertent removal of one or more layers of skin following the removal of an adhesive device. Lesions are often shallow and may be shiny. Open lesions may be erythematous (red) and also have bullae (blisters).^{1,3,4,5}

3 / FOLLICULITIS

Inflammatory reaction in hair follicles caused by entrapment of bacteria. Appears as papule or pustule.^{1,6,7}

4 / MACERATION

Skin changes resulting in moisture entrapment against the skin for a prolonged period. Skin looks wrinkled or white/gray. Skin softening results in increased permeability with increased susceptibility to damage from irritants and/or friction.¹

















5 / TENSION INJURY/BLISTER

Separation of the epidermis from dermis caused by shear force resulting from the distention of skin under an unyielding adhesive, inappropriate strapping of tape, tape/dressing application, or when a joint or other moveable area is covered with an unyielding adhesive.^{1,2,4,9}

6 / ALLERGIC CONTACT DERMATITIS

Cell-mediated immunologic response to a component of the adhesive or backing. Usually appears as an area of erythematous vesicular or pruritic dermatitis corresponding to the area of exposure and/or beyond. Can persist up to a week.^{19,10}

7 / IRRITANT CONTACT DERMATITIS

Contact dermatitis as a result of a chemical irritant. The defined area of contact correlates with the area of exposure. May appear erythematous and swollen. Typically of shorter duration than allergic contact dermatitis.^{1,2,10}

MARSI IS NOT JUST PAINFUL - MARSI IS ALSO COSTLY

THE PATIENT – MARSI RISK

Potentially, anyone is at risk for MARSI. There are, however, specific patients for whom adhesives pose a higher risk.

// PROPER PRODUCT SELECTION & INTERVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF MARSI²

SELECT APPROPRIATE ADHESIVE

Use adhesive with adequate skin bond that allows stretch for movement or edema.

APPLY ADHESIVE CORRECTLY

- No tension during application
- Apply in correct direction for stretch
- Apply to intact dry skin
- Allow any skin preparations to dry
- Clip hair
- Avoid excessive bonding agents

APPROPRIATE REMOVAL

AVOID LEAVING OCCLUSIVE ADHESIVES ON TOO LONG

AVOID REPEATED ADHESIVE APPLICATION/REMOVAL

MAINTAIN HYDRATION



Neonatal skin is 40% - 60% thinner than adult skin. This is primarily due to fewer epidermal cells in the stratum corneum.¹⁰ Neonates most often experience the MARSI injury of skin stripping.¹²

OLDER ADULTS

As aging occurs, the skin loses its strength and elasticity. There is also less subcutaneous tissue and epidermal thinning. The flattening of rete ridges between the epidermis and dermis leads to less cohesion between these layers, increasing the risk of skin injury. The loss of skin moisture and vascularity also enhances the risk of injury and slows the healing rate.^{1,11}

ORTHOPEDIC PATIENTS

Edema, friction and joint movement coupled with significant tape use make the orthopedic surgical patient at high risk for MARSI. Tension blisters are the most common MARSI injury in this population.^{1,2}

PATIENTS WITH SPECIFIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS OR OTHER CHRONIC SKIN CONDITIONS

Other patients with chronic conditions impacting the skin are at risk for MARSI. These include medical conditions such as diabetes, renal failure, infection and venous insufficiency, oncology patients, ICU patients, patients with malnutrition or dehydration and patients with chronic skin conditions such as eczema, chronic ulcers and epidermolysis bullosa.¹ 8% RISK FOR HOSPITALIZED INFANTS & CHILDREN





CHOOSE COMFORT

// CHOOSE COMFORT RELEASE®

In "Medical Adhesives and Patient Safety: State of the Science"¹ several consensus

statements were made regarding prevention and treatment of MARSI. Comfort Release[®] is at the cutting edge as the only wound care product specifically designed to prevent and treat MARSI. With its patented adhesive polymer, it provides predictable adhesion with gentle, skin sparing removal. Comfort Release[®] sticks when you need it and releases when you don't need it.

CHOOSE CLINICAL IMPACT

// CHOOSE COMFORT RELEASE®

By electing to use a product with excellent adhesion and painless, traumafree removal, MARSI can be avoided while dressings and medical devices remain predictably secure. Comfort Release[®] provides better, more predictable adhesion than silicone-based adhesives while allowing a painless, trauma-free removal.

CHOOSE COST BENEFIT // CHOOSE COMFORT RELEASE®

One MARSI can cost \$88.50 to treat.¹³ That is 125x the cost of one roll of plastic tape. Silicone tapes are more expensive and provide less predictable adhesion. Adhesive removers add cost. Comfort Release[®] is priced to compete with current brands that contribute to MARSI and Comfort Release[®] PREVENTS and TREATS MARSI. All that is required for removal is one or two rubbing alcohol swabs, something readily available in every healthcare setting.

TURN THE ADHESIVE OFF – THEN REMOVE

COMFORT RELEASE® ALLOWS YOU TO TRIGGER THE ADHESIVE BOND TO TURN-OFF FOR PAINLESS, TRAUMA-FREE REMOVAL







Comfort Release[®] delivers the strength of an acrylic adhesive with the easy release of silicone – with no residual glue or mess. The difference is in our patented oligomeric switch (OGS) technology. Comfort Release[®] is made with a unique polymer that allows for secure adhesion to the skin when it is needed-while a simple swipe with rubbing alcohol triggers the adhesive to turn-off, to release for painless, trauma-free removal.

STEPS FOR REMOVAL

Wet a cotton ball with 70% isopropyl alcohol or rubbing alcohol, or use 1-2 alcohol prep pads.

Wipe the entire outside of the bandage or tape or the border of the form dressing or the border of the transparent dressing with rubbing alcohol until it begins to lift easily from the skin (about 3-10 seconds).

Lift the bandage, tape, or dressing from the skin.

To reapply or reposition, simply allow the rubbing alcohol to evaporate and replace bandage, tape or dressing on the skin.



Technology

COMFORT RELEASE® PRODUCTS

BORDERED FOAM DRESSING

Adhesive is in the border and not in the foam pad. Recommended wear time is 3 to 7 days. Removes painlessly by swiping the outside border with rubbing alcohol.

BORDERED TRANSPARENT DRESSING

The adhesion of our dressing border is stronger than the market leader while the adhesion of the transparent window is significantly less. The dressings are occlusive and waterproof with a breathability (as measured by MVTR) that is more than 4 times the market leader to optimize skin health. Recommended wear time is 3 to 7 days. Removes painlessly by swiping the outside border with rubbing alcohol to turn off the strong skin bonding before removing.

TAPE

The adhesion is comparable but the breathability is more than 2 times the market leader in tapes. Removes painlessly by swiping the outside with rubbing alcohol. Available in multiple sizes, including single patient, single use short rolls.

BANDAGES

Adhesion is stronger and longer lasting than the market leaders. Removes painlessly by swiping the outside with rubbing alcohol. Available in several sizes.









Visit comfortrelease.com/where-to-buy for more product details and where to buy. All Comfort Release[®] products are waterproof or water resistant.

OUR MISSION is to improve the clinician and patient experience by providing high quality acute and advanced adhesive wound care products with skin injury prevention solutions.

OUR VISION for the lives we touch is to have a compassionate experience with a painless and trauma-free adhesive use and which is easily implemented everywhere care is provided.

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