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Every day, some 41,000 B. Braun employees in over 50 countries share their knowledge with colleagues and customers. The innovations developed in this way help to improve working processes in hospitals and medical practices and to enhance safety for patients, doctors and nurses. In 2010, the Group generated sales of approximately €4.4 billion.

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New data show the effectiveness of cleansing solutions with polyhexanide and betaine

One of the central requirements to accelerate wound healing is a properly performed debridement followed by thorough wound cleansing to diminish bacterial biofilm, necrotic tissue and detritus. These wound coatings may inhibit the processes involved in wound healing. Several clinical trials demonstrate the success of wound bed preparation using a polyhexanide and betaine containing cleansing agent. In a randomized controlled trial, the cleansing solution reduced the pH value in wounds which is a surrogate marker for bacterial burden.ⁱ In a further randomized study, the gel was shown to lead to faster wound size reduction in chronic wounds.ⁱⁱ Moreover, it has been demonstrated that a combination of the solution and the gel lead to wound closure in 80% of the patients with improved wound assessment findings.ⁱⁱⁱ Additionally, it has been reported that wound cleansing with the polyhexanide and betaine containing solution may accelerate healing compared with traditional cleansers such as normal saline or Ringer's solution.^{iv}

B. Braun Wound Care products focus on both - wound cleansing with Prontosan® and effective wound dressings for each state of wound healing. By providing innovative solutions such as Prontosan® Wound Irrigation Solution, bacterial biofilm can be efficiently removed thereby clearing the way for application of advanced wound dressings from the Askina® range, to assist in the complex task of tissue repair.

Askina® provides a broad range of dressings with different technologies for each phase of the healing process. The choice of the right product at the right time for the right wound can improve wound healing and quality of life while limiting complications and costs. B. Braun's full range of wound care products such as Askina® Calgitrol Ag and Prontosan® offer responses to basic needs for moist treatments, complex wounds and non-healing wounds, thus providing a novel approach to wound repair. Silicone technology (Askina® DresSil, Askina® SilNet) provides a new standard of a wound care treatment for infected wounds, the patented ionic silver alginate matrices (Askina® Calgitrol Ag), provide a broad antimicrobial spectrum and help to prevent contamination from external bacteria.

For more detailed information on the EWMA B. Braun's Satellite Symposium look at the news at www.bbraun.com. Please visit www.prontosan-bbraun.com and www.bbraun.com for more information.

About B. Braun

The B. Braun Group stands for competence in healthcare. For more than 170 years, the company has been developing, producing and distributing products and services for medicine, and, with its modern approach and innovative strength, it has developed into a worldwide group of companies and a leading supplier for the healthcare market. B. Braun has achieved this position in the market and won the respect of its partners through its varied range of products and services, through setting itself high quality standards and constantly translating new knowledge into products and services. B. Braun does not merely export all over the world, it also has business activities in many different countries. In 2010, 41,000 employees in 50 countries generated sales of more than EUR 4.4bn. The target customers are hospitals, medical practices, pharmacies, and care and emergency services. The product spectrum ranges

from infusion solutions, injection pumps and accessories for infusion therapy, intensive medicine and anesthesia to surgical instruments, sterile containers and sutures, hip and knee endoprotheses, power systems and accessories for extra corporeal blood treatment and products for wound care. The complete range encompasses more than 30,000 different products. In addition, the company offers consulting services, for example helping hospitals to optimize their processes and assure quality, or preparing patients and their families for homecare, handling all the formalities for them, supporting them in the transition period and ensuring that they receive qualified care. B. Braun draws its innovative strength from a corporate philosophy that promotes the exchange of information and experience both within the company and also with practitioners in the hospitals. “Sharing Expertise“ is the promise that holds true for employees as for customers.

ⁱ Romanelli et al. Evaluation of the efficacy and tolerability of a solution containing propyl betaine and polihexanide. *Skin Pharmacol Physiol* 2010; 23 (Suppl 1): 41-44

ⁱⁱ Valenzuela AR, Perucho NS. The effectiveness of a 0.1% polyhexanide gel. *Rev ROL Enf* 2008; 31: 247-252

ⁱⁱⁱ Moeller A et al. Experiences in using polyhexanide containing wound products in the management of chronic wounds – results of a methodical and retrospective analysis of 953 cases. *Wundmanagement* 2008; 3: 112-117

^{iv} Andriessen et al. Assessment of a wound cleansing solution in the treatment of problem wounds. *WOUNDS* 2008; 20(6): 171-175