#### SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF A CHRONIC VENOUS ULCER WITH A SILVER CONTACT DRESSING AND COMPRESSION THERAPY

Carol Publicover MSN, ARNP, CWOCN, Florida Hospital Wound Management Centers, Orlando, Florida

## **PURPOSE**

To evaluate the healing process associated with the use of a silver contact dressing (SilverIon) and compression therapy (Unna boot).

# HISTORY

A 53 year old male with diabetes, peripheral vascular disease, and a nonhealing lower extremity venous stasis ulcer with associated intractable edema. He reports 6 years of treatment with multiple wound care modalities, none of which have produced 100% healing.

### CURRENT CLINICAL APPROACH (Effective 10/30/01)

The wounds were cleansed and debrided as appropriate. The periwound was protected with skin barrier. A silver dressing(Silverlon) was moistened with sterile water and applied to the wound surface. A secondary dressing was applied followed by compression therapy. Dressings were changed twice weekly x5 then weekly until closure.

## **SUMMARY**

Despite a significant medical history and multiple treatment failures, the wounds completely healed in 17 weeks, with a dramatic reduction in pain.



10/30/01A = 9.0 x 7.4 cm B = 1.3 x 1.6 cm C = 2.0 x 2.2 cm



11/16/01A = 7.0 x 6.6 cm B = Healed C = 0.7 x 1.3 cm



12/24/01A = 3.0 x 3.5 cm C = Healed



 $A = 2.4 \times 1.8 \text{ cm}$ 



2/25/02 A = Healed