

# A Gentle, Precise Treatment

## Pre-tibia haematoma

Heather Hodgson, Tissue Viability Nurse Specialist Gartnavel General Hospital

## Introduction

This study shows the use of free-range larvae on a patient with a large haematoma on her lower leg caused by trauma.

## History

The patient was a frail, 95 year old female with an extensive cardiac history, who presented with a lower leg haematoma measuring 15cm x 10cm caused by traumatic injury. Aspiration of the haematoma was attempted and a protective dressing was applied. Two weeks later the Tissue Viability Nurse was contacted to review the wound.

### **Treatment**

Evidence provided in a previous case study from Biomonde and expert opinion from senior tissue viability colleagues together with the Biomonde Clinical Nurse Advisor formed the basis for a decision to use larval therapy as an appropriate treatment for this wound. Three pots of free-range larvae were prescribed as per the Biomonde Larvae Calculator.

The larvae were applied and remained in situ for the recommended 3 days during which time the outer absorbent, non-

occlusive dressings were changed on a daily basis in order to manage the increased levels of exudate.

Despite the frailty of this particular patient and the frequency of dressing change due to the size of haematoma to be resolved, the patient tolerated the therapy well.

### **Outcome**

The photograph taken after removal of larvae clearly illustrates that the very large haematoma was removed with a single application of free-range larvae to reveal a clean wound bed. The wound bed was subsequently treated with other products to promote granulation and the patient was discharged home a few days later.



**01:** Day 1



**02:** Day 3