

# PowerFlex® AFD

## ABSORBENT FOAM DRESSING



Foam Pad *and* Cohesive Bandage in One:

### PowerFlex Layer:

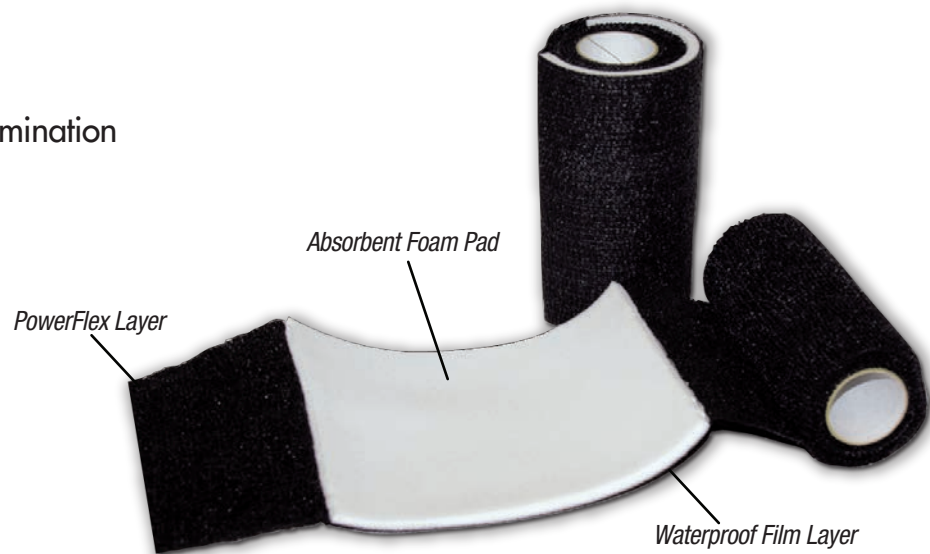
- Fabric-based cohesive bandage with 23 lbs. tensile strength
- Sticks to itself, not to hair or skin
- Provides consistent compression - will not constrict
- Hand-tear - no scissors needed
- Sweat and water resistant - won't slip or loosen
- U.S. Patent No. 5.762.623

### Waterproof Film Layer:

- Thin film prevents leakage
- Helps protect wound from contamination
- Holds foam pad in place

### Absorbent Foam Pad:

- Hydrophilic/Hydrocolloid foam pad
- Absorbs up to 13 times its weight
- Draws, locks and holds fluid
- Expands when wet
- Conforms to wound cavity/reduces maceration
- Will not stick to wound bed
- Fluid retention 124-133 grams vs. 3.8-4.3 grams of traditional gauze
- U.S. Patent No. 6.566.576 (Dicon Technologies)



## Benefits of PowerFlex AFD

- High absorption
- Easy application
- Fewer dressing changes
- Reduces SKU's
- Controlled compression - will not constrict
- Stays in place
- Quick to apply/saves dressing time
- Conforms to wound bed
- Hand tear - no scissors needed
- Reduces maceration/promotes wound healing

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why should I use PowerFlex AFD vs. traditional bandaging (gauze and cohesive bandage)?

It would take 29 gauze pads to absorb the same amount of fluid as PowerFlex AFD. Higher absorption results in fewer dressing changes and reduces trauma to the wound. PowerFlex AFD is also much easier to apply than traditional bandaging because it is an all-in-one system, can be easily applied by one person, and won't move or migrate.

### How often should I change the PowerFlex AFD dressing?

Like any wound treatment, how often you change the dressing will depend on the stage of the wound. PowerFlex AFD has been left on wounds up to 5 days, however regular monitoring of any wound is necessary to determine proper treatment. Generally PowerFlex AFD will require fewer dressing changes than traditional bandaging. Fewer dressing changes decreases trauma to the wound and helps promote healing.

### What is the benefit of the foam expanding when wet?

The absorbent foam pad in PowerFlex AFD will expand when wet, taking the formation of the wound bed (but not adhering to it). This helps absorption in the wound area lifting and holding the exudates, while leaving the surrounding tissue healthy and clean to help promote tissue granulation and healing. This also reduces the risk of maceration of healthy tissue and expansion of the wound and helps promote healing.

### What is the benefit of having hydrocolloid in the foam?

The hydrocolloid will lock and hold the exudates into the foam which prevents leakage. It also helps in keeping the wound moist.

### How does PowerFlex AFD maintain optimum moisture in the wound?

The hydrocolloid in the absorbent foam dressing will help to maintain the optimum amount of moisture at the interface between the wound and the bandage. PowerFlex AFD was designed to keep the wound bed moist and not dry the wound bed.

### Will the dressing tighten or constrict over time?

No. PowerFlex is made from linear yarns and the compression will remain consistent after applied. Like any compression bandage, it is important to apply the bandage at the proper compression initially to ensure it isn't too tight or too loose. Generally speaking, it is recommended to apply the bandage at a 50% stretch during application.

## How to Apply PowerFlex AFD



*After cleaning the wound, unroll to expose absorbent foam pad.*



*Place foam pad over wound.*



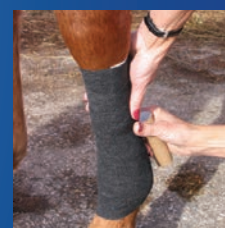
*Cover wound with foam pad & wrap bandage around so it covers first layer.*



*Prior to each wrap around leg, pull bandage out approx. 6".*



*Continue to wrap at desired tension with 50% overlap.*



*Seal end of bandage to bottom layer with fingernail for a strong, solid seal.*

## PowerFlex AFD vs. Traditional Gauze Pads

**Test Method:** 5-minute drip test using 3”x 3” gauze pads and 4”x 5” AFD foam

**Result:** It would take 29 gauze pads to equal the amount of fluid absorbed and retained in one 4”x 5” AFD. At the end of the 5-minute drip test, the gauze pads were still dripping but the AFD had stopped.

### Other Findings:

1. AFD expands when wet. Gauze pads contract.
2. When AFD was removed, the surface was clean. The gauze left fibers behind when removed - the wound could heal around those fibers.
3. AFD stayed attached to the cohesive bandage when wet. The gauze migrated and did not stay in place.
4. PowerFlex AFD stayed intact when removed. The gauze needed to be removed in layers/separate pieces post application.
5. PowerFlex AFD can be applied without touching the foam pad, limiting contamination to the wound. Gauze pads need to be handled during application.

## Density and Absorption Information:

SAMPLE	THICKNESS of FOAM (in.)	WEIGHT of FOAM (DRY) (lbs.)	WEIGHT WET (5 min. drip test) (lbs.)	WEIGHT of WATER (lbs.)	DENSITY of FOAM (lbs./ft <sup>3</sup> )	ABSORBENCY (times its own weight)
ALLEVYN Smith & Nephew (2” x 2”)	0.231	0.0039	0.0439	0.0400	7.29	10.26
AFD Foam Andover Healthcare (4” x 5”)	0.172	0.0040	0.0539	0.0499	10.25	12.48
Gauze Pad* (3” x 3”)	12 ply	0.0019 (pad weight)	0.0114	0.0095	N/A	5.00

*Allevyn is a trademark of Smith & Nephew*

### \*Notes:

1. It would take about 29 3”x 3” gauze pads to absorb the same amount of fluid as one 4”x 5” AFD foam pad.
2. The absorbency testing was not conducted with the bandages under pressure. Gauze pads under pressure will retain considerably less fluid than the foam.