



WOUND HEALING

COMPLETE HEALING OF A CHRONIC VENOUS ULCER AFTER 8 WEEKS OF TOPICAL TIMOLOL

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Background: It is thought that β -Receptor antagonists improve keratinocyte migration and also enhance angiogenesis in the wound.

Observation: A 57-year-old woman presented with a chronic and painful ulcer on the left leg that had been present for the last 30 months with severe psychosocial impact. The ulcer was shown resistant to daily cures, compression stockings and general measures. Physical examination showed 2 cm sized and well-defined ulcer on the inner malleolus of the left leg. The base of the ulcer was clean, with minimal fibrin and exudation. Trophic changes and multiple signs of venous insufficiency could be noticed in the surrounding skin, whereas the pulses were present. Two drops of 0.5% timolol maleate ophthalmic solution daily and occlusion with hydrocolloid dressings were prescribed, in addition to resting and compression stockings. At 8-week review, the ulcer had completely reepithelialised and the pain had resolved. No side effects were noticed during the treatment.

Key message: Topical timolol is a cheap and easy treatment that could be considered for venous ulcers which are resistant to general measures including in patients on oral beta-blockers.

