The Biosurgical Wound Healing : Revisited Maggot Therapy In SASMEC@IIUM

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INTRODUCTION:

Sterile maggot therapy is a treatment modality that involves the use of medical-grade maggots, specifically larvae of the *Lucilia cuprina*. This novel therapy has gained attention in the medical community due to its ability to accelerate healing in chronic, non-healing wounds, such as diabetic ulcers and pressure sores. Additionally, sterile maggot therapy has shown promise in cases where patients have limited treatment options, especially those who may be at risk of amputation due to non-responsive wounds.

REPORT:

A 72 y.o gentleman presented to hospital with history of left ankle swelling for 4 days associated with fever. The swelling was progressively worsening and causing pain with difficulty in ambulation. There was also a foul smelling discharge from a wound over the swelling. The left ankle appears swollen up to distal leg with an ulcer at posterior aspect over medial malleolus. Presence of multiple hemorrhagic bullae with crepitus and a suggestive LRINEC score of 11 conclude the diagnosis of left ankle necrotizing soft tissue infection (NSTI). Patient underwent emergency wound debridement and arthrotomy washout. Post debridement wound over left ankle had poor healing with expanding slough tissue. The dilemma exposing of bone and tendon if patient plan for another debridement, took us to seek maggot debridement therapy. The maggot therapy was successfully done for 2 cycle which lasted 5 days each cycle before discharging the patient back home on daily dressing at nearest health care facilities. The progression of wound healing yield a good result from the maggot therapy.

Figure 2 : a) Pre maggot therapy wound with slough base b) Post Maggot debridement therapy wound with healthy granulationtissue

CONCLUSION:

Overall, sterile maggot therapy holds promise as a viable treatment option for wound healing. This therapy effectively reduces bacterial bioburden and serves as a biosurgical tool for wound management.

REFERENCES:

1. Nair, et al. (2021). Maggot Debridement Therapy in Malaysia. The international journal of lower extremity wounds, 20(3), 208–216.