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Use of Noncontact Normothermic Wound Therapy (Warm-Up® wound therapy system) on chronic diabetic foot ulcers, a pilot study.

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The use of heat in wound healing has been demonstrated to aid oxygen flow and hence healing in both acute and chronic wounds (venous, pressure and diabetic ulcers).

In order to gain experience with the Warm-Up® wound therapy system (Warm-UP; Augustine Medical Inc. Eden Prairie, MN) and investigate the benefits of a Noncontact Normothermic Wound Therapy (NNWT) on chronic diabetic foot ulcers we performed a pilot study in our diabetic foot clinic.

Seven patients with neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers were included. All patients were known to our foot clinic and were treated before with different kind of dressings and/or therapies, without any positive evolution on woundhealing. Since immobilization during warming-up is mandatory compliance was an important inclusion criterion. The NNWT was applied for 1 hour 3 times daily.

During evaluations following parameters were monitored: Wound size and depth, wound bed appearance, drainage type and amount, wound odor, staging/classification, weekly number of covers used. *In figure 1* we present the most important data available.

Pt	Wagner Class.	Control visits	Evolution	Outcome
1.	2	2	+ -	Decrease of wound size Increase of exudates
2.	1	4	++	Healing
3.	2	3	0	Change of treatment to keratinocytes due to hypertrophy of granulation tissue
4.	3	4	+ +	Decrease of wound odor Decrease of wound depth Treatment interrupted due to bad compliance
5.	1	2	+ + -	Decrease of wound size Granulation tissue Maceration Change of treatment to keratinocytes
6.	1	1	Status quo	
7.	1	1	Status quo	

Figure 1: overview of evolution of NNWT treatment in 7 cases.

Technical approach and new case reports will be illustrated on the poster.