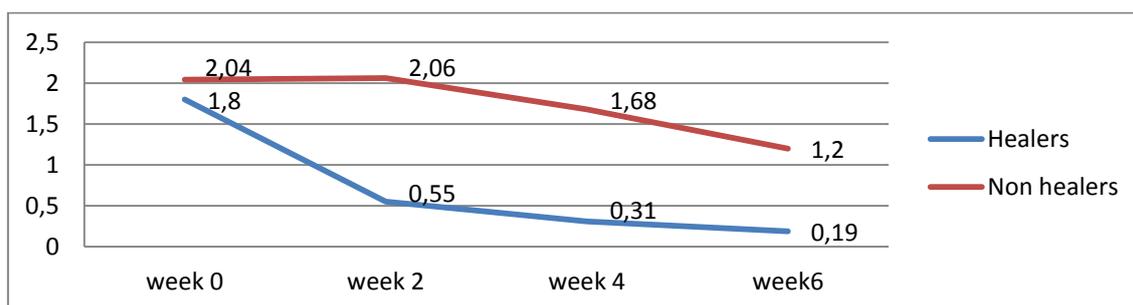


### Determination of the percent area reduction as a prognostic factor for 2, 4 and 6 weeks in the healing of diabetic foot ulcers.

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**Introduction:** several studies report that the percent area reduction (PAR) of the ulcer during the first weeks of treatment perform as prognostic indicators for the healing. PAR after 4 weeks of diabetic foot ulcer (DFU) treatment has been suggested as a clinical monitoring parameter to distinguish DFUs that will heal within 12 weeks from those that will not. **Aims:** assess whether a PAR after 2, 4 and 6 weeks of standard wound care is a prognosis factor for diabetic foot ulcer (DFU) healing by 12 weeks. **Methods:** we follow-up weekly 71 DFU that were treated according wound care protocol from our Center. We examined the change in ulcer area 2, 4 and 6 week period as a predictor of wound healing within 12 weeks. **Results:** of the 71 patients, n=11(15.5%) didn't heal and n=60 (84.5%) healed by 12 weeks. The median baseline ulcer area was  $2 \text{ cm}^2 \pm 3.35$ . The PAR for the DFU healed by 12 weeks was  $60.4\% \pm 48.8$ ,  $66.7\% \pm 53.3$ ,  $74.7\% \pm 65$  by week 2, 4 and 6 respectively. DFUs that healed by week 12 had a significantly greater median PAR during weeks 2 (p 0.034), 4 (p 0.007) and 6 (p 0.027) compared with DFUs that didn't heal.



In this chart we can see the average reduction area by week 0, 2, 4 and 6 in healers and non-healers patients. **Conclusions:** The PAR in both the second, fourth and sixth week of treatment protocol is a prognostic factor for healing by 12 weeks. Clinical experience supports re-evaluating the treatment regimen if the ulcer is not progressively healing. Measurement to the second week is an early predictor factor and this PAR lets us know the good or bad prognosis for intervening with appropriate treatment therapies.

