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BACKGROUNDER:
Ostomy Skin Complications and ConvaTec Moldable Technology™

An ostomy (or stoma) is a surgical opening made in the skin as a way for waste products to leave the body. An ostomy can allow wastes to leave from the intestines (ileostomy or colostomy) or from the bladder (urostomy). “Ostomate” is a term used for someone who has a stoma.

Half of All Ostomates Have Skin Issues

Research shows that half of ostomates experience skin complications, the majority of which are related to leakage.^{1,2}

- 34% of ostomates had skin complications within the first 3 weeks after surgery³
- 47% within the first two months⁴
- 52% within the first year²

Clinical Studies Demonstrate Powerful Protection of Moldable Technology

In a large multinational observational study conducted over a period of two months:

- Over 95 percent (95.6%) of new ostomates started on Moldable Technology maintained healthy skin.⁵
- Over 86 percent (86.2%) of ostomates with pre-existing skin disorders had improved skin after switching to Moldable Technology.⁵
- Both patient groups reported high levels of satisfaction in the areas of comfort; ease of molding, application and removal; reliability; and overall performance and satisfaction.⁵

In an independent comparative study versus a “stretch-to-fit” skin barrier (Hollister Forma-Flex™), Moldable Technology also demonstrated:

- Reduced skin exposure (by 78%) and erosive skin lesions (by 86%)⁶
- 22 percent longer wear time⁶

Leakage and Skin Issues Contribute to High Levels of Hospital Readmissions, Costs

Ostomy patients are three times more likely than other patients to be readmitted within 30 days after discharge.⁷ In the U.S., lowering overall readmissions is a key goal for hospitals under the Affordable Care Act.⁷

Preventing skin issues can also reduce healthcare costs—for patients, hospitals and payers. For a hospital system conducting 1,000 ostomy procedures per year, the costs associated with treating these skin issues can add up to \$138,000 annually.^{8,9}

“Moldable Technology can dramatically improve the quality of life for a person with an ostomy,” said Steve Bishop, Vice President of R&D at ConvaTec.

“It can also reduce readmission rates and provide significant cost savings for healthcare providers and payers.”

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