

Case study

The effectiveness of Swash® Perineum Wipes vs. traditional Incontinence Care

Monitoring IAD Prevalence and Prevention in 250 Patients at Scias Hospital de Barcelona



Olga Isart Bosch
Nurse, SCIAS Hospital
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Olga Isart Bosch, a nurse at SCIAS Hospital de Barcelona with more than 15 years of experience, initiated a study to assess whether using **Swash® Perineum Wipes** could prevent the development of IAD compared to traditional incontinence care.

Additionally, by conducting the comparison study, Olga aimed to gather more data on the prevalence of IAD in the hospital. During the testing, they discovered that 39% of the patients developed IAD during hospital admission when using the traditional incontinence care.

SCIAS

Hospital de Barcelona



- Beds: **273**
- Employees: **800**
- Admissions: **11.997**
- Day admissions: **14.920**



 **SCIAS**
Hospital de Barcelona



Problem

Similar to many other hospitals across Europe, SCIAS Hospital lacked data on the prevalence of IAD in their wards. Olga Isart Bosch stated, "Patients with IAD may experience secondary skin infections more easily, with yeast infections being the most common." These infections manifest as a bright red rash that extends from a central area with satellite lesions into the surrounding healthy skin. ¹

When Olga began the testing, traditional incontinence care involved soaping, rinsing, drying, and moisturizing.

The fragile skin of incontinent patients can deteriorate with the use of soap and water, as it can increase skin pH value and leave residues due to incomplete rinsing, leading to damage to the acid mantle through lipid loss. Conversely, the use of bedding can serve as a source of bacteria that cause infections. ²

Solution

Olga learned about 3-in-1 products designed to gently and thoroughly clean the skin and sought to determine if they were more effective than traditional incontinence care for bedridden patients.

This was an experimental, observational, and descriptive study aimed at assessing the incidence of IAD in two groups of incontinent patients who underwent perineal hygiene in different ways.

In the control group, hygiene was performed in the conventional way, according to the protocol of the ward.



'Patients with IAD may experience secondary skin infections more easily, with yeast infections being the most common.'

In the experimental group hygiene of the diaper area was carried out with **Swash® Wipes Perineum** exclusively.

The population consisted of all incontinent patients admitted to the aforementioned services from July 1, 2017, with a minimum of 125 patients in each group. The study duration was about 1 year.

How did Olga and her colleagues measure the results?

The intervention protocol for this study involved:

- **Step 1**
Checking the patient's skin for signs of IAD upon admission using the Perineal Assessment Tool (PAT) to measure the perineal skin injury.³
- **Step 2**
Daily follow-up with diagnostic observation and treatment for patients in both groups.
- **Step 3**
Assessing the appearance of IAD during admission.
- **Step 4**
Daily review of the affected area.
- **Step 5**
Assessing the resolution of IAD at the time of discharge.

Results

In the control group, 70 patients were affected by IAD. Among these, 61.43% had IAD upon admission, and 38.57% developed it during their hospital stay.

In the experimental group using Swash Perineum Wipe, 21.46% of the patients were affected by IAD. Among these, 78.95% had IAD upon admission, and 21.46% developed it during their hospital stay.

During the study, 84.21% of IAD cases were resolved. The remaining 21.05% of the IAD was cured on the 50% of the affected skin surface by the time of discharge from the ward.

Olga Isart Bosch stated, "Based on the conditions of our study, according to the results obtained, we can conclude that the use of the special wipes Swash® Perineum for perineal care reduces the incidence of IAD compared to conventional hygiene."

"The difference in resolution of IAD in the experimental group was nearly 20% points greater than that in the control group."

Olga Isart Bosch wrote an article about her study for the Spanish nursing magazine Infogeriatrics. The study was published in December 2019.

20%

'The difference in resolution of IAD in the experimental group was nearly 20% points greater than that in the control group.'

Are you ready to improve your organization's approach to incontinence and IAD prevention?

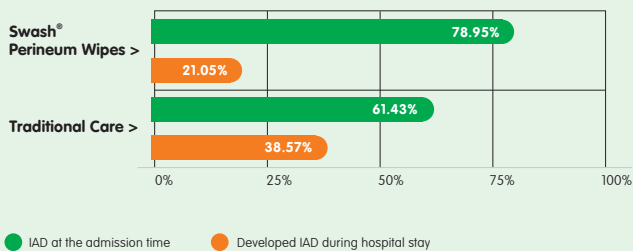
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Study results


Swash® Perineum Wipes (Experimental group)

Sample: 126 patients 

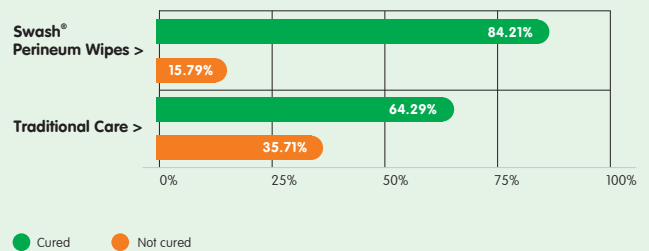
PREVALENCE



Traditional Care (Control group)

Sample: 125 patients 

CASES RESOLVED



1. Defloor T, Schoonhoven L, Fletcher J, Furtado K, Heyman H, Lubbers M, et al. Pressure Ulcer Classification: Differentiation Between Pressure Ulcers and Moisture Lesions. Statement of the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel. J Wound Ostomy Continence Nurse 2005; 32(5):302-6.
 2. Beckman D et al. Proceedings of the Global IAD Expert Panel. Incontinence associated dermatitis: moving prevention forward. Wounds International 2015. Available at www.woundsinternational.com
 3. Nix DH. Validity and reliability of the Perineal Assessment Tool. Ostomy Wound Manage. 2002 Feb;48(2):43-6, 48-9.