

## Advanced Technique Application Guide

# Bridging

Including Avance® Foam Dressing Kit, Avance Film with Safetac® technology and Avance ViewPad™



The Bridging technique is used to treat multiple wounds with one dressing kit, or to off-set the Avance® ViewPad™ in narrow wounds or from a pressure point.

**NOTE:** Never bridge a non-infected wound with an infected wound or bridge wounds with different etiologies as this may put wounds at risk for cross contamination.

**NOTE:** The term **Safetac® film** referenced below is the abbreviated form of **Avance Film with Safetac® technology**. The term **foam** is the abbreviated form of **Avance Foam**. The term **ViewPad** is the abbreviated form of **Avance View Pad**.

## 1. Prepare

A. Assess the patient for pain, and medicate as indicated and as ordered, prior to the dressing application.

B. Prepare all dressing materials.

C. Cleanse the wound bed as instructed by the clinician.

D. Cleanse the periwound skin and thoroughly dry.

**NOTE:** Do not use oxidizing agents such as hypochlorite solutions or hydrogen peroxide prior to use of the foam dressing kit.

E. Identify a relocation site for the ViewPad. In order to protect the skin between the wound and the ViewPad relocation site, cut the Safetac film into relocation strips. Ensure that relocation strips are only 1-2 cm wider than the width of the foam bridge and the foam landing-pad.

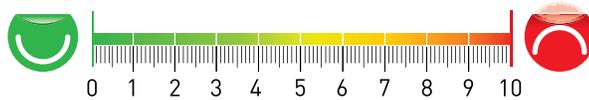
F. Cut the foam, away from the wound, into the appropriate size corresponding with the dimensions of the wound cavity.

**NOTE:** Rub the foam edges to remove any loose particles.

G. Cut the foam for the bridge section into strips or cut in a cinnamon roll technique to create one long strip.

H. Cut a piece of the foam into a foam landing-pad that is big enough to support the ViewPad at the relocation site. Use the ViewPad as a template.

The Avance Film with Safetac technology is designed to minimize Patient pain!



1A



1B



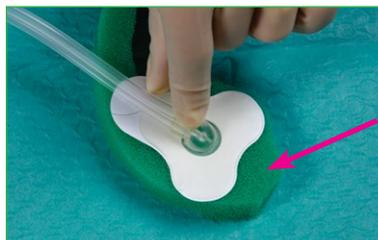
1D



1E



1G



1H

Avance Foam landing-pad, should fully support the ViewPad.

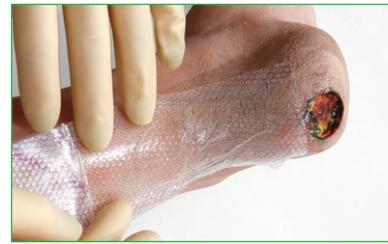
The Avance Film Safetac technology promotes patient comfort by reducing pain, erythema and skin stripping at the dressing change<sup>1</sup> and is designed for use on the patient with a dry periwound.

## 2. Protect

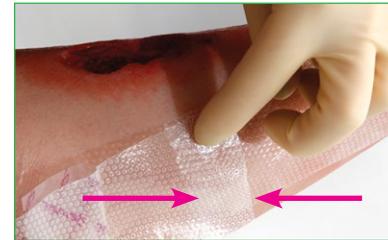
- A. Cover any areas of the wound that need protection with Mepitel®.  
**NOTE:** Ensure that the Mepitel does not overlap on to intact skin and that the Mepitel is changed at every dressing application.
- B. Dry the skin thoroughly.
- C. Place the cut relocation strips with Safetac® film onto the skin from the wound edge to the relocation site.
- D. When using multiple strips of the Safetac film, ensure that there is at least a 3-5 cm overlap.

**NOTE:** If certain skin protection products e.g. zinc paste or skin lotions have been applied to the patient's skin prior to application of the film, the adhesion level on the skin will be negatively affected.

When choosing a relocation site: If possible, relocate the ViewPad™ to an area distal to the wound, within the patient view and away from pressure points.



2C



2D 3-5 cm overlap of the relocation strips.

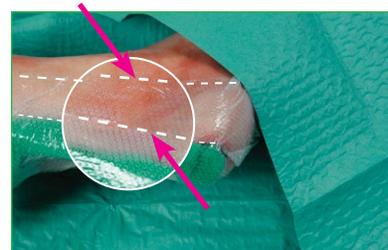
## 3. Apply

- A. Place the foam in the wound.
- B. Place the foam strip from the wound onto the cut Safetac film relocation strip. Continue bridging the foam on top of the remaining relocation strips to the relocation site. Ensure that there is foam-to-foam contact between the wound, bridge and relocation site and that the foam at the relocation site can support the ViewPad.
- C. Remove the release liner in the middle of the Safetac film and cover the foam in the wound, the bridge section and the foam landing-pad at the relocation site. Ensure that the second layer of the Safetac film overlaps the first layer (relocation strips) by at least 5 cm onto the surrounding skin.

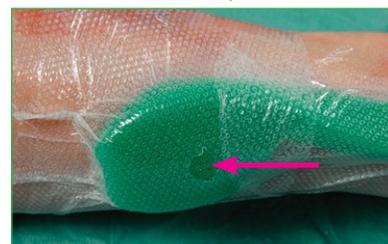
**NOTE:** Do not stretch or cut the Safetac film into strips as it may affect the adhesion to the skin once negative pressure is applied.

**NOTE:** To reduce the risk of maceration, do not apply more than two layers of the Safetac film.

- D. Cut a hole in the Safetac film, approximately 1 cm in diameter in the center of the foam landing-pad at the relocation site.
- E. Remove the release liner on the ViewPad and place it directly over the cut hole and press firmly.



3C 5 cm overlap past the relocation strip.



3D 1 cm hole in the Safetac film at the foam landing-pad relocation site.



3E

## 4. Commence

A. Connect the ViewPad™ tubing to the Avance® Tubing. Attach the canister to the Avance Max or Flex Pump and insert the Avance Tubing into the canister. Turn on the Avance Max or Flex Pump and commence therapy.

**NOTE:** Pressure setting should be selected in accordance with the prescriber's recommendation for the patient's etiology and wound type. For guidance, the recommended pressure range for the foam is -80 mmHg to -120 mmHg.

B. Once the negative pressure is applied, the dressing will collapse. There may be a tightening sensation in the wound, but that should resolve in a few seconds.

**NOTE:** If the dressing does not collapse, the system may not be sealed. Inspect the dressing, canister and tubing connections for possible leaks and correct accordingly.



4A



4B

### Best Practice Tips for the Avance Film with Safetac® technology:

- Always apply to a dry periwound. Do not use any skin protectants on the periwound.
- Do not cut the Safetac film into strips.
- Always apply the Safetac film in one piece without stretching, with a 3-5 cm overlap onto intact skin.
- When multiple pieces of Safetac film are required for large wounds: Ensure that there is a 3-5 cm overlap where the Safetac film layers meet and a 3-5 cm overlap onto intact skin.
- Do not apply a periwound picture frame (window pane) with the Safetac film, except in instances of narrow wounds and when the relocation of the ViewPad is needed. Please refer to the Mushroom and the Bridging Application Guide for further instructions.

**Reference:** 1. Davies, P., Rippon, M. Evidence review: the clinical benefits of Safetac technology in wound care. *Journal of Wound Care* 2008; November Supplement: 3-31.

For further information on the Avance NPWT System, including safety considerations, see the Instructions For Use for the Avance Pump, Avance Dressings, and the Avance NPWT Clinician Guidelines or call the Apria Clinical Support line at 1-800-780-1228.

### For additional information contact your Apria Healthcare Representative

1-800-780-1228 | [apria.com](http://apria.com) | 26220 Enterprise Court, Lake Forest, CA 92630

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