

## A sprayable ultrasound gel achieving disinfection?

Interventional phlebology has become the most important part in the treatment of venous diseases. As many steps use ultrasound and punctures, a medium providing **transducer gliding and disinfection** could facilitate all those procedures.

The basic idea was to choose a well established non-alcoholic slow-reacting disinfectant (Octenidin, 2-Phenoxyethanol), combine it with a gliding medium (e.g. starch solution) and apply it during ultrasound preparations prior to vein treatments for several minutes. By moving the transducer across the area, the disinfectant interacts with the skin surface more intense than just by spraying or wiping. The prototype provides a **gliding film**, which persists for at least **15 – 20 minutes**, as it does not evaporate. The application is by spraying, while different to alcoholic disinfectants the particles are larger to prevent formation of breathable aerosols.

The **hygiene** achieved with this new medium within 7 minutes of ultrasound examination is equivalent or **even better** than standard alcoholic disinfection for 2 x 1 minute (*Ragg, Phlebologie 2014; 43, A*). According to recent tests, the use of the new medium during intervention is more effective concerning reduction of resident germs than when using sterile ultrasound gel after standard disinfection.

As the medium is easily removable and does not interact with colour markings, the preparation of interventional treatments is **significantly accelerated**. Gel spray **consumption** is less than 10% of common ultrasound gels.

The **application** of the new disinfectant/couplant should be considered in all ultrasound-based interventions with at least 5 minutes pre-puncture use of ultrasound. Furthermore, the spray gel supports easy, safe and clean pre-surgical or pre-interventional **shaving of body hair**. Finally, it may be used during **spider vein sclerotherapy** as it lowers the skin resistance and facilitates painless punctures without inducing spasms.

**Status:** Search for world market manufacturer.



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