

TheraGenesis®: Exposed Tibialis Anterior Tendon

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CASE STUDY

PATIENT PROFILE

A 51-year-old male with no significant past medical history, except for an appendectomy and umbilical hernia repair.

INCIDENT AND INITIAL TREATMENT

The patient sustained an open fracture to the distal third of the tibia after falling from a ladder at a height of 3-5 feet in Jamaica. The initial treatment involved wound washing, closure, and splinting.

The patient returned to the U.S. three days later and visited the E.R. where he underwent open reduction and internal fixation (ORIF) with an intramedullary (IM) nail.

The patient was discharged home on post-operative day (POD) 4.

COMPLICATIONS AND RE-ADMISSION

Roughly 10 weeks later, the patient was re-admitted to the same hospital due to worsening pain, swelling, and wound breakdown with dehiscence on both the medial and lateral aspects of the ankle.

The patient presented with a fever of 103°F and a white blood cell (WBC) count of 14.3. A CT scan revealed bridging callus across the tibial and fibular fractures and soft tissue gas posteriorly, raising concerns for necrotizing soft tissue infection.

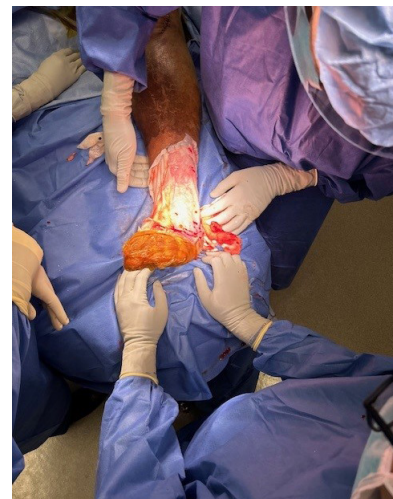
SUBSEQUENT SURGICAL INTERVENTIONS

Week 1 (*Application 1*)

The patient underwent hardware removal, debridement, and application of TheraGenesis (350 cm²) and vacuum-assisted closure (VAC). The tendon was exposed, but no bone was exposed. Wound cultures grew Group A Streptococcus.



Debridement



TheraGenesis application

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Week 3 (Application 2)

The patient returned to the O.R. for further debridement and a second application of TheraGenesis and VAC.



Wound progression prior to skin graft and third TheraGenesis application

Week 5 (Application 3)

The patient underwent a split-thickness skin graft to the wound, with a third application of TheraGenesis (3x4 cm) and VAC. There was an area of exposed tibialis anterior tendon.



Hardware removal

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OUTCOME

After six weeks, the exposed tendon re-epithelialized and the patient healed uneventfully. The fractures also healed without any signs of infection.



Post-op photos

Visit LifeNetHealth.org/TheraGenesis
for more information on TheraGenesis bilayer wound matrix.

Please refer to the instructions for use for a complete list of indications, contraindications, warnings, and precautions.

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