

Case study: Lime-related chemical burns with associated eschar

Contributed by Lee Ruotsi, MD, UHM, CWS

Smith+Nephew

Collagenase
SANTYL[◇]
Ointment 250 units/gram

Patient

A 24-year-old male with an unremarkable past medical history was pouring cement while wearing sneakers. His feet were intermittently immersed in the cement for approximately three hours, resulting in chemical burns on both feet from his exposure to the lime.

Wound presentation

The patient was seen in the wound center 72 hours after the burns occurred. The burn wounds, on both feet, had associated firmly adherent eschars.

Treatment

The eschars were cross-hatched on the initial visit and SANTYL Ointment was applied nickel thick and covered with a saline-moistened gauze and continued daily.

Results

Significant improvement of the wounds is visible after the application of SANTYL Ointment with saline-moistened gauze dressing for 10 days. Individual results may vary.

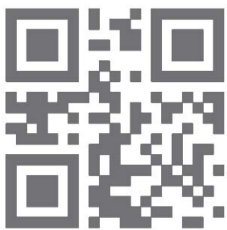


- Wounds presented 72 hours after the burns occurred
- Firmly adherent eschar on both feet
- Eschars cross-hatched in the clinic using a #15 scalpel with 2mm spacing at 90 degree angles to cover entire surface of the eschar
- SANTYL Ointment applied daily and covered with a saline-moistened gauze

Treatment



- Daily application of SANTYL^o Ointment with saline-moistened gauze continued
- Significant improvement of wounds visible after 10 days
- Appointment scheduled for two weeks later; patient cancelled and informed physician wounds had healed



Learn more

Important Safety Information

Indications: Collagenase SANTYL Ointment ("SANTYL") is a prescription-only medication indicated for debriding chronic dermal ulcers and severely burned areas. **Contraindications:** SANTYL is contraindicated in patients who have shown local or systemic hypersensitivity to collagenase. **Warning and Precautions:** The optimal pH range of collagenase is 6 to 8. Higher or lower pH conditions will decrease the enzyme's activity and appropriate precautions should be taken. The enzymatic activity is also adversely affected by certain detergents, and heavy metal ions such as mercury and silver which are used in some antiseptics. As such, the wound should be properly cleansed prior to application of SANTYL. Debilitated patients should be closely monitored for systemic bacterial infections because of the theoretical possibility that debriding enzymes may increase the risk of bacteremia. A slight transient erythema has been noted occasionally in the surrounding tissue, particularly when SANTYL was not confined to the wound. SANTYL is not indicated for wound closure. Discontinue use of SANTYL after granulation tissue is well-established. **Adverse Reactions:** No allergic sensitivity or toxic reactions have been noted in clinical use when used as directed. The risk information provided herein is not comprehensive. For complete prescribing information, please refer to the accompanying PI or visit: <https://santyl.com/sites/default/files/2019-12/SANTYL-PI.pdf>. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to FDA. Visit MedWatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Collagenase SANTYL[®]

Ointment 250 units/g

Rx only

DESCRIPTION

Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment is a sterile enzymatic debriding ointment which contains 250 collagenase units per gram of white petrolatum USP. The enzyme collagenase is derived from the fermentation by *Clostridium histolyticum*. It possesses the unique ability to digest collagen in necrotic tissue.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Since collagen accounts for 75% of the dry weight of skin tissue, the ability of collagenase to digest collagen in the physiological pH and temperature range makes it particularly effective in the removal of detritus.¹

Collagenase thus contributes towards the formation of granulation tissue and subsequent epithelialization of dermal ulcers and severely burned areas.^{2,3,4,5,6} Collagen in healthy tissue or in newly formed granulation tissue is not attacked.^{2,3,4,5,6,7,8} There is no information available on collagenase absorption through skin or its concentration in body fluids associated with therapeutic and/or toxic effects, degree of binding to plasma proteins, degree of uptake by a particular organ or in the fetus, and passage across the blood brain barrier.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment is indicated for debriding chronic dermal ulcers^{2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18} and severely burned areas.^{3,4,5,7,16,19,20,21}

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment is contraindicated in patients who have shown local or systemic hypersensitivity to collagenase.

PRECAUTIONS

The optimal pH range of collagenase is 6 to 8. Higher or lower pH conditions will decrease the enzyme's activity and appropriate precautions should be taken. The enzymatic activity is also adversely affected by certain detergents, and heavy metal ions such as mercury and silver which are used in some antiseptics. When it is suspected such materials have been used, the site should be carefully cleansed by repeated washings with normal saline before Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment is applied. Soaks containing metal ions or acidic solutions should be avoided because of the metal ion and low pH. Cleansing materials such as Dakin's solution and normal saline are compatible with Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment.

Debililitated patients should be closely monitored for systemic bacterial infections because of the theoretical possibility that debriding enzymes may increase the risk of bacteremia.

A slight transient erythema has been noted occasionally in the surrounding tissue, particularly when Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment was not confined to the wound. Therefore, the ointment should be applied carefully within the area of the wound. Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

No allergic sensitivity or toxic reactions have been noted in clinical use when used as directed. However, one case of systemic manifestations of hypersensitivity to collagenase in a patient treated for more than one year with a combination of collagenase and cortisone has been reported.

OVERDOSAGE

No systemic or local reaction attributed to overdose has been observed in clinical investigations and clinical use. If deemed necessary the enzyme may be inactivated by washing the area with povidone iodine.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment should be applied once daily (or more frequently if the dressing becomes soiled, as from incontinence). When clinically indicated, crosshatching thick eschar with a #10 blade allows Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment more surface contact with necrotic debris. It is also desirable to remove, with forceps and scissors, as much loosened detritus as can be done readily. Use Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment in the following manner:

1 – Prior to application the wound should be cleansed of debris and digested material by gently rubbing with a gauze pad saturated with normal saline solution, or with the desired cleansing agent compatible with Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment (See **PRECAUTIONS**), followed by a normal saline solution rinse.

2 – Whenever infection is present, it is desirable to use an appropriate topical antibiotic powder. The antibiotic should be applied to the wound prior to the application of Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment. Should the infection not respond, therapy with Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment should be discontinued until remission of the infection.

3 – Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment may be applied directly to the wound or to a sterile gauze pad which is then applied to the wound and properly secured.

4 – Use of Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment should be terminated when debridement of necrotic tissue is complete and granulation tissue is well established.

HOW SUPPLIED

Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment contains 250 units of collagenase enzyme per gram of white petrolatum USP.

Do not store above 25°C (77°F). Sterility guaranteed until tube is opened.

Collagenase Santyl[®] Ointment is available in the following sizes:

30 g tube NDC 50484-010-30

90 g tube NDC 50484-010-90

REFERENCES

- 1 – Mandl, I., *Adv Enzymol.* 23:163, 1961.
- 2 – Boxer, A.M., Gottesman, N., Bernstein, H., & Mandl, I., *Geriatrics.* 24:75, 1969.
- 3 – Mazurek, I., *Med. Welt.* 22:150, 1971.
- 4 – Zimmermann, W.E., in "Collagenase," Mandl, I., ed., Gordon & Breach, Science Publishers, New York, 1971, p. 131, p. 185.
- 5 – Vetra, H., & Whittaker, D., *Geriatrics.* 30:53, 1975.
- 6 – Rao, D.B., Sane, P.G., & Georgiev, E.L., *J. Am. Geriatrics Soc.* 23:22, 1975.
- 7 – Vrabec, R., Moserova, J., Konickova, Z., Behounkova, E., & Blaha, J., *J. Hyg. Epidemiol. Microbiol. Immunol.* 18:496, 1974.
- 8 – Lippmann, H.I., *Arch. Phys. Med. Rehabil.* 54:588, 1973.
- 9 – German, F.M., in "Collagenase," Mandl, I., ed., Gordon & Breach, Science Publishers, New York, 1971, p. 165.
- 10 – Haimovici, H. & Strauch, B., in "Collagenase," Mandl, I., ed., Gordon & Breach, Science Publishers, New York, 1971, p. 177.
- 11 – Lee, L.K., & Ambrus, J. L., *Geriatrics.* 30:91, 1975.
- 12 – Locke, R.K., & Heifitz, N.M., *J. Am. Pod. Assoc.* 65:242, 1975.
- 13 – Varma, A.O., Bugatch, E., & German, F.M., *Surg. Gynecol. Obstet.* 136:281, 1973.
- 14 – Barrett, D., Jr., & Klibanski, A., *Am. J. Nurs.* 73:849, 1973.
- 15 – Bardfield, L.A., *J. Pod. Ed.* 1:41, 1970.
- 16 – Blum, G., Schweiz, *Rundschau Med Praxis.* 62:820, 1973. *Abstr. in Dermatology Digest*, Feb. 1974, p. 36.
- 17 – Zaruba, F., Lettl, A., Brozkova, L., Skrdlantova, H., & Krs, V., *J. Hyg. Epidemiol. Microbiol. Immunol.* 18:499, 1974.
- 18 – Altman, M.I., Goldstein, L., & Horwitz, S., *J. Am. Pod. Assoc.* 68:11, 1978.
- 19 – Rehn, V.J., *Med. Klin.* 58:799, 1963.
- 20 – Krauss, H., Koslowski, L., & Zimmermann, W.E., *Langenbecks Arch. Klin. Chir.* 303:23, 1963.
- 21 – Gruenagel, H.H., *Med. Klin.* 58:442, 1963.

Manufactured by:
Smith & Nephew, Inc.
Fort Worth, Texas 76109
US Gov't License #2004

Marketed by:



1-800-441-8227
Smith & Nephew, Inc.
Fort Worth, Texas 76109

© 2016 Smith & Nephew, Inc.
SANTYL is a registered trademark of Smith & Nephew, Inc.
140749-0316