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Introduction

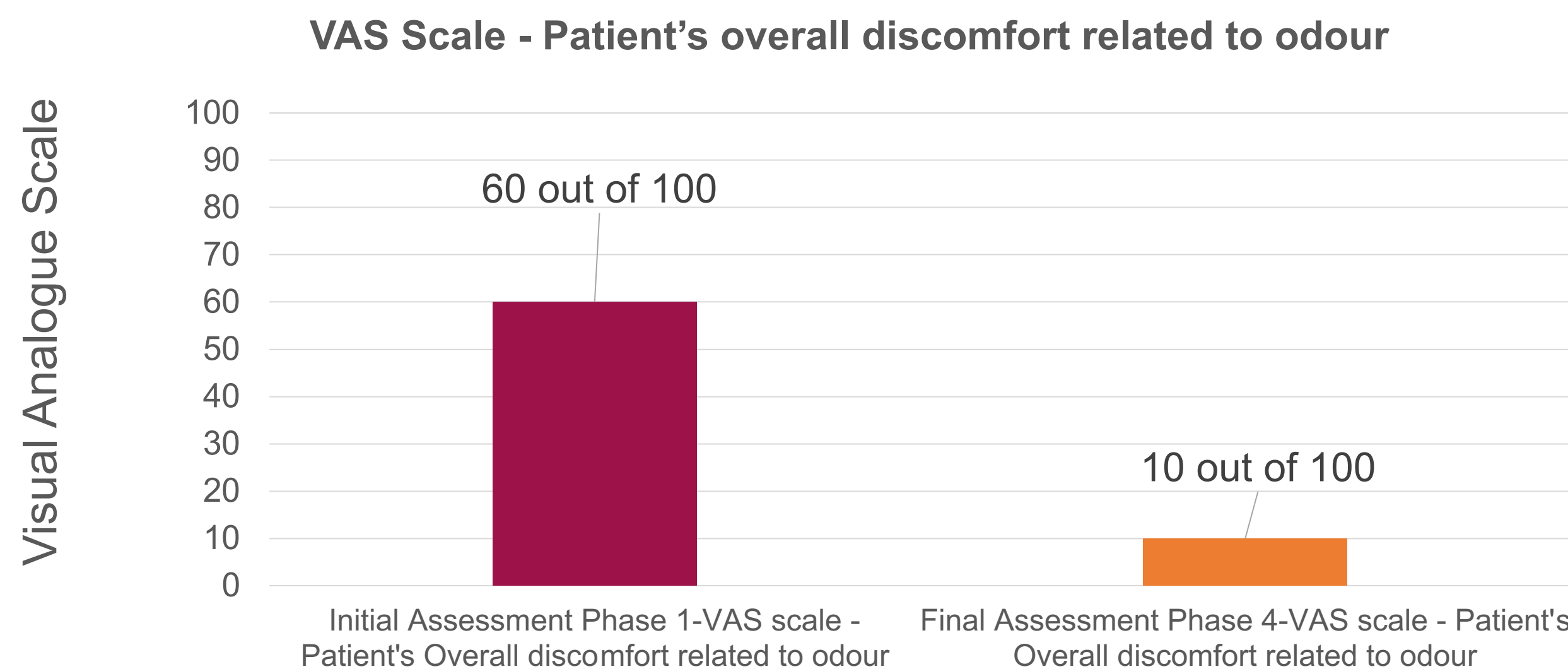
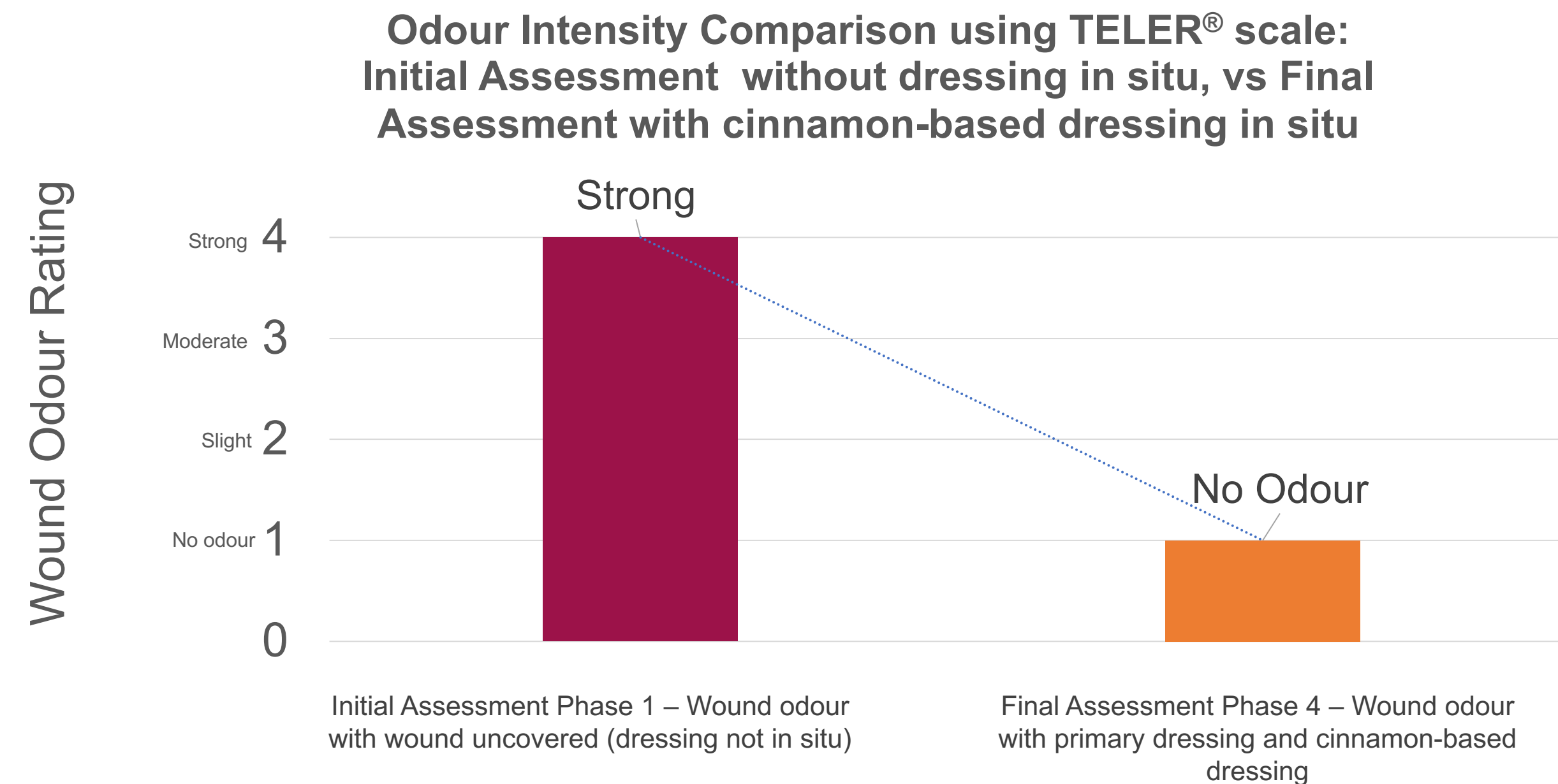
Wound odour control is vital for patient comfort and healing. Malodours can serve as a constant reminder of the wound and its consequences, permeating clothing and living spaces, and causing embarrassment, anxiety, social isolation, and decreased appetite for the individual (Lo et al., 2012; Lazelle-Ali, C., 2007). However, treatment options for managing wound odour are limited, and the literature lacks standardized outcomes and consistent methods for measuring wound odour (Gethin et al., 2023). Cinnamon-based dressing, offers a solution by providing not only a pleasant scent but also effective odour control. This study aimed to quantify the effectiveness of the cinnamon-based dressing, in managing odour from malodorous malignant fungating wounds.

Results

Three participants were recruited:

1. The first participant, a 31-40-year-old female, presented malignant lesions on her thighs, buttocks, and legs. This case showed notable improvements in wound odour and Quality of Life (QoL). However, due to severe pain during dressing changes, the assessment was prematurely concluded.
2. The second participant, a 41-60-year-old male, had a large fungating wound on his buttock. He reported effective odour concealment in phone interviews with the researchers.
3. The third participant, a 61-80-year-old senior female, had a fungating wound on her groin. She showed a reduction in wound odour and was very satisfied with the cinnamon-based odour control dressing (Table 1 and Figures).

All three participants reported a notable reduction in wound malodour, improving their quality of life during the last few weeks of their lives.



Discomfort related to the wound odour	Initial Assessment D0	Final Assessment D14
Aware of odour	Yes	No
Concerned other people will notice	Yes	No
Upset by the reaction of others	Yes	No
Embarrassed of the odour	Yes	No
Affect the lifestyle and social interactions	Yes	No

Table 1: Discomfort related to the wound odour experienced by the Patient 3

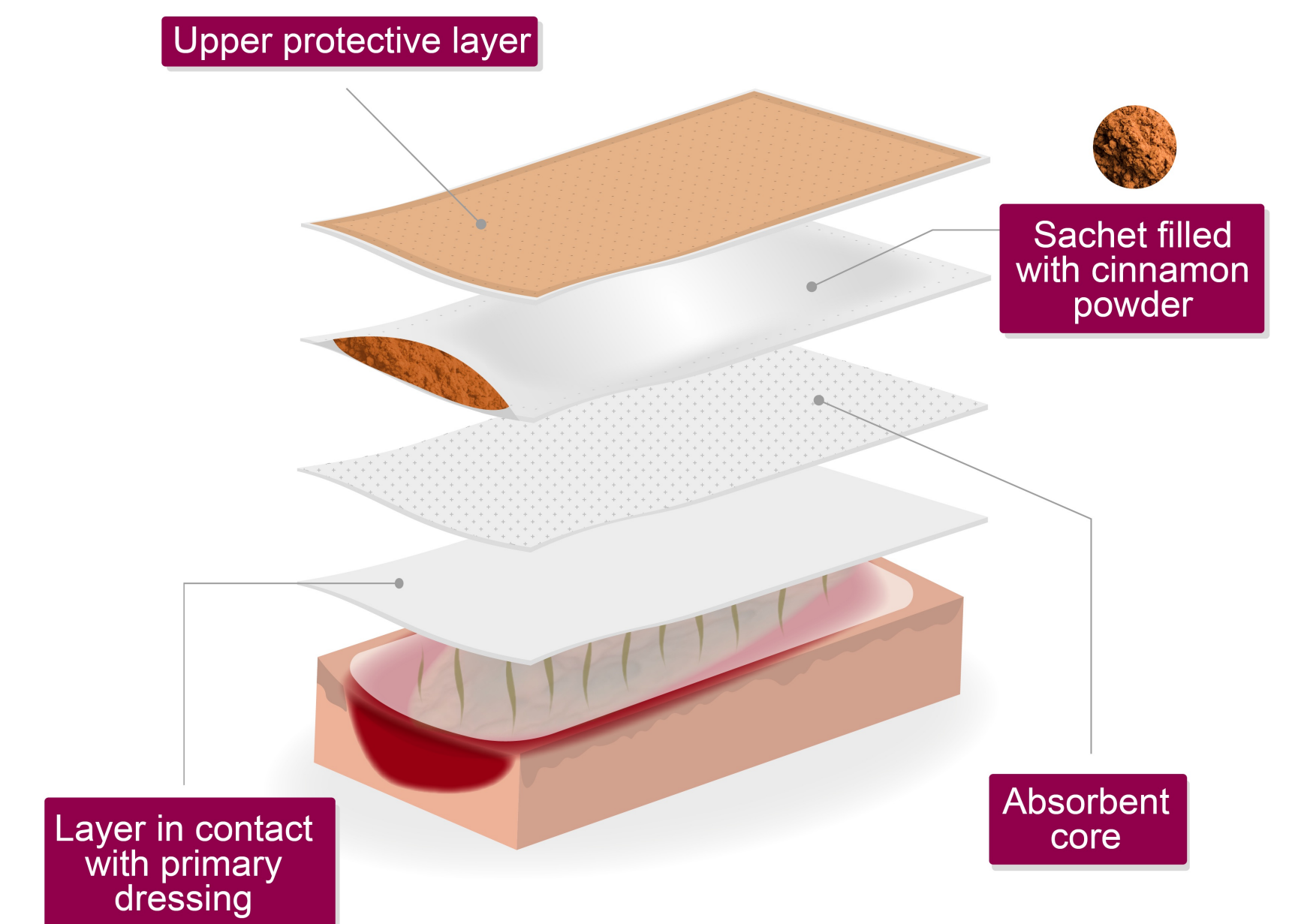
Discussion

Data collection deviated from the original protocol because participants were often too ill to be visited by the Research Team or to complete the measurements themselves; thus, data collection methods were adjusted to accommodate the participants' conditions.

Conclusions

This small case series indicates that a cinnamon-based dressing may enhance the quality of life for patients with malodorous malignant fungating wounds. The cinnamon-based dressing, when used as a secondary dressing, could effectively reduce wound malodour.

These cases underscore the complexity of conducting research in a palliative care context. Future research should include data that qualify patients' experiences as they navigate end-of-life care.



References

- Lo S-F, Hayter M, Hu W-Y, et al. (2012) Symptom burden and quality of life in patients with malignant fungating wounds. *Journal of Advance Nursing* 68(6):1312–1321.
 Lazelle-Ali C. (2007) Psychological and physical care of malodorous fungating wounds. *Br J Nurs*. Aug 9-Sep 12;16(15):S16-24. doi: 10.12968/bjon.2007.16.Sup3.24528. PMID: 17851368.
 G. Gethin, L. Murphy, D. Sezgin, et al. (2023) Resigning oneself to a life of wound-related odour – A thematic analysis of patient experiences, *J Tissue Viability*. 2023 Nov;32(4):460-464. doi: 10.1016/j.jtv.2023.07.004. Epub 2023 Jul 20.

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