

Larvae Therapy (*BioBag*®)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

This treatment is indicated for the debridement of devitalized tissues i.e., slough or necrosis.

Larvae therapy involves the use of live, sterile larvae that actively cleanse and debride a wound by producing enzymes which dissolve the devitalized tissue. The larvae then ingest the devitalized tissue. Length of treatment is usually three to five days, however in some circumstances repeated application may be required. The larvae are used in a bag, the product being called "BioBag". "Free range" larvae are no longer available.

The treatment can be carried out in the patient's own home or in a care setting; this will depend on the site of the wound.

Contra-indications and precautions for use

Contra-indications:

- Patients on anticoagulants
- Patients with Malignant Wounds
- Blind Ended sinus
- Fistula
- Dry necrotic wounds
- Wounds that contain Major blood vessels
- Wounds that connect to any internal organs

Application

Application of larvae biobags, associated dressings, removal and disposal of used product should be carried out by suitably trained TVN/community nurse, as per your organisations policy or the detailed guidance included with the Larvae Biobags.

Side-effects

On rare occasions the use of larvae has caused the wound to bleed. For this reason, it is recommended that the dressing is inspected daily by a specialist tissue viability nurse or community practice nurse who has undergone the appropriate training. If bleeding has occurred, the larvae should be removed and the wound re-assessed.

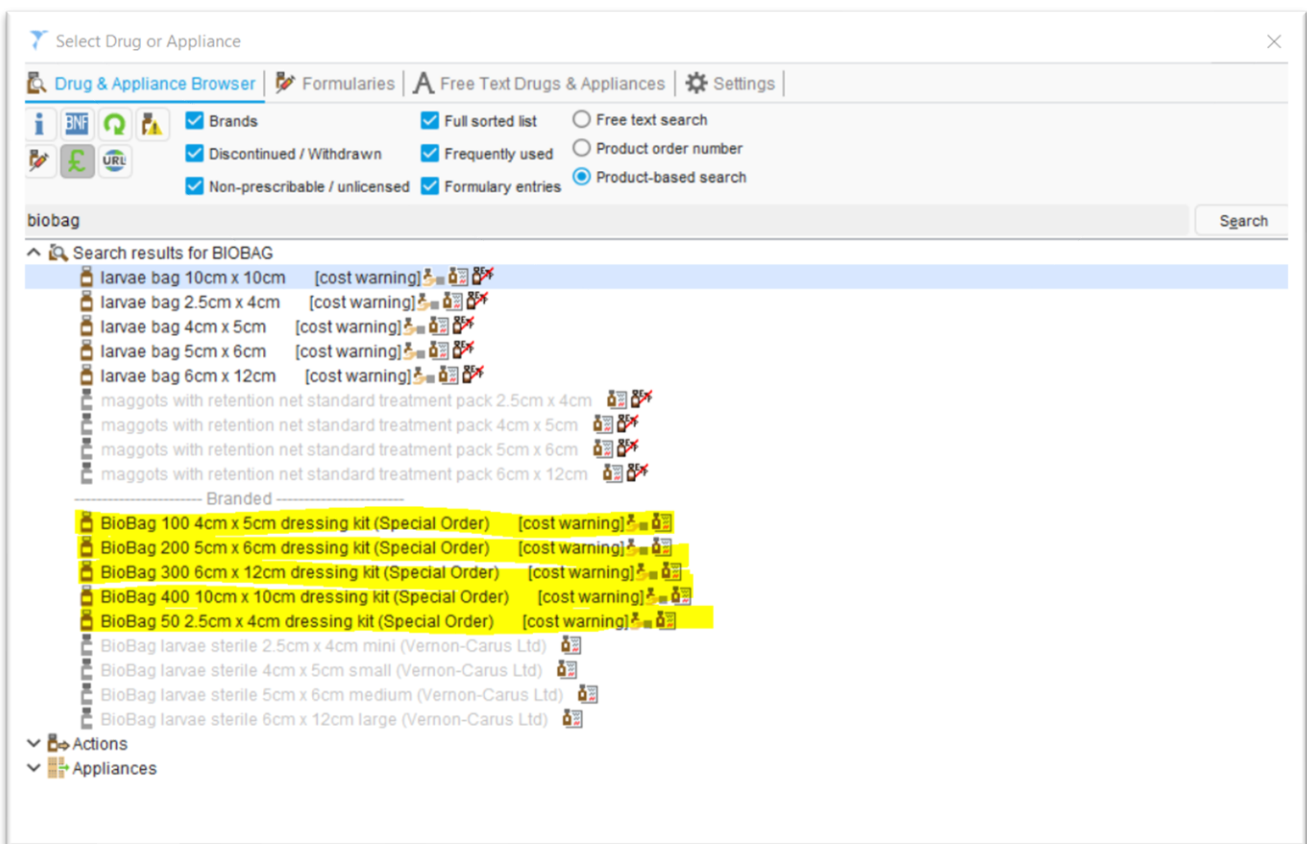
Although some patients have stated that the use of larvae causes a reduction in wound pain, others have reported an increase in pain following their application. This seems to occur most commonly in patients who have wounds associated with ischaemia. Wound pain should be assessed by the nurse as part of ongoing monitoring of response to treatment.

Prescribing

Larvae Therapy is an unlicensed medicinal product but can be prescribed on recommendation of Tissue Viability Nurses where deemed appropriate.

The sizes of the larvae Biobags are: 2.5x4cm; 4x5cm; 5x6cm; 6x12cm; 10x10cm. The person recommending Larvae Therapy should inform the prescriber which size is required. It is recommended that larvae should be applied to the wound on the day of delivery therefore we suggest that only one BioBag is ordered at a time. Subsequent BioBags can be ordered on day three of treatment when the wound is assessed, if required.

To generate an ETP prescription in TPP type in “BioBag” and select the size you need. See picture below.



We recognise that a cost warning appears on the Drug Selection screen, as one BioBag can cost between £258 and £362, however, we do support their use on FP10.

Send the prescription to the patient's community pharmacy – as larvae therapy is infrequently used, we recommend the practice liaises with the patient's community pharmacy prior to sending them the FP10. Any community pharmacy can be approached to make arrangements for the dispensing of BioMonde Larvae. The pharmacies listed in appendix 1 are known to have established accounts with BioMonde and may therefore be able to procure treatment in the timeliest manner.

Ordering Process for Pharmacy

To order for the first time, BioMonde will collate information from the community pharmacy and agree purchasing/billing terms to set up an account. This simple process should take 5-10 minutes. Request account set-up forms via: orders@biomonde.com

All orders should be placed directly with the BioMonde Customer Service department via telephone or email. Email: orders@biomonde.com; Telephone: 0345 2301810.

BioMonde will require the following information:

- Prescribers name and/or GMC/NMC number
- Sizes and quantity required
- Date required
- Confirmation of delivery address

Orders can be placed Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 5pm however next day delivery is only available if an order is placed before 2pm.

Orders can be placed at any time via email and will either be delivered on the next available day or the delivery day of your choice. For BSW, deliveries are available Monday to Saturday.

Deliveries should be with pharmacies by 12pm on the day of delivery however some packages can take up to 48 hours to arrive. This will be confirmed at the point of order. If you require a delivery on a Monday, you should place the order by 4pm on the Friday before.

NB – Larvae deliveries should NOT be stored in the refrigerator when received in Pharmacy but kept at room temperature. The requesting clinician be informed of their arrival immediately as application to the wound should take place within 24 hours of delivery.

Appendix 1

BSW Community Pharmacies with BioMonde Account for Obtaining Larvae Therapy

In the first instance, we recommend TVNs/practices liaise with local community pharmacies to make arrangements for the dispensing of BioMonde Larvae. The pharmacies listed below are known to have established accounts with BioMonde and may therefore be able to procure treatment in the most timely manner

Trading Name	Locality	Post Code	Order method
Wellsway Pharmacy	Bath	BA2 4QW	
Clement Pharmacy	Bath	BA3 3PL	
Westfield Pharmacy	Bath	BA3 3SX	
Chandag Road Pharmacy	Bath	BS31 1PW	
Boots Pharmacy	Bath	BS31 1DX	Via Alliance Healthcare
Well Pharmacy	Bath	BA1 6EH	Via Bestway National Chemist Ltd
Midsomer Pharmacy	Bath	BA3 2DE	
Boots Pharmacy	Bath	BA2 1LN	Via Alliance Healthcare
The Bathwick Pharmacy	Bath	BA2 4BQ	
Timsbury Pharmacy	Bath	BA2 0HT	
Jhoots Pharmacy	Bath	BA1 3PT	Via Quantum Pharmaceutical Ltd
Larkhall Pharmacy	Bath	BA1 6RT	
Hawes Whiston & Company	Bath	BA1 2TU	
Pulteney Pharmacy	Bath	BA2 4BY	
Bathampton Pharmacy	Bath	BA2 6UL	
Hounsell & Greene	Bath	BA2 3HT	
Tawhill Pharmacy	Swindon	SN25 1UH	
Home Ground Pharmacy	Swindon	SN25 1QQ	
Jephson Pharmacy Ltd	Swindon	SN4 9LW	Via Quantum Pharmaceutical Ltd
Tesco In-Store Pharmacy	Swindon	SN1 2EH	Via Lexon (UK) Ltd
Rowlands Pharmacy	Swindon	SN3 2RJ	Via Rowland H/O
Shrivenham Pharmacy	Swindon	SN6 8AA	Via Alliance Healthcare
Hawthorn Pharmacy	Swindon	SN2 1AE	
Home Farm Pharmacy	Swindon	SN6 7DN	
Boots Pharmacy	Swindon	SN25 4AN	Via Alliance Healthcare
Rowlands Pharmacy	Swindon	SN3 3TQ	Via Quantum Pharmaceutical Ltd

Trading Name	Locality	Post Code	Order Method
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts NEW	SN13 0HL	Via Alliance Healthcare
Shaunaks Pharmacy	Wilts NEW	SN13 9DN	Via Lexon UK Ltd
Pharmacy At Northlands	Wilts NEW	SN11 0HH	
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts NEW	SN11 0HA	Via Alliance Healthcare
Kennet Pharmacy	Wilts NEW	SN8 4BY	Via Quantum Pharmaceutical Ltd
Cohens Chemist	Wilts NEW	SN4 7AX	Via Eastone Ltd

Boots Pharmacy	Wilts NEW	SN6 6AA	Via Alliance Healthcare
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts NEW	SN16 0FB	Via Alliance Healthcare
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts SARUM	SP4 7DB	Via Alliance Healthcare
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts SARUM	SP1 2NG	Via Alliance Healthcare
Rowlands Pharmacy	Wilts SARUM	SP1 3SL	Via Rowland H/O
Rowlands Pharmacy	Wilts SARUM	SP2 9DJ	
Bishopdown Pharmacy	Wilts SARUM	SP1 3FF	
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts SARUM	SP3 6LD	Via Alliance Healthcare
GS Health Ltd	Wilts SARUM	SP11 9RA	
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA12 9AA	Via Alliance Healthcare
Lockwoods Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA14 7EG	Via Alliance Healthcare
Day Lewis Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	SN10 4AT	
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA14 8LU	Via Alliance Healthcare
John Preddy Chemist	Wilts WEST	BA13 3BN	Via Alliance Healthcare
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA14 8FZ	Via Alliance Healthcare
Spa Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	SN12 6UN	
Tesco In-Store Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA14 7AQ	Via Alliance Healthcare
Cohens Chemist	Wilts WEST	BA14 9EN	
Boots Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA13 3BN	Via Alliance Healthcare
Shaunaks Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA13 3FQ	Via Lexon (UK) Ltd
Well Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA12 9BX	Via Vertical Pharma Resources Ltd
Paxcroft Pharmacy	Wilts WEST	BA14 7GW	

If you are a Community Pharmacy listed above and would like to have your details amended, or if you are a Community Pharmacy and would like to have your details added to the list above, please contact us at bswicb.prescribing@nhs.net