Introduction
This study aimed to evaluate the efficacy of a Silver Non-adherent hydro-alginate wound dressing (SNA) within the context of a two-week challenge period, as per the 2012 international consensus report1, combining both in vitro and clinical data.

In vitro Antimicrobial Evaluation
The antimicrobial efficacy of the SNA dressing was evaluated in triplicate by log_{10} reduction assay against clinically significant organisms S. aureus (SA) and P. aeruginosa (PA), which involves exposure of a small dressing sample to a bacterial culture. Samples of culture were removed at various time points over 24 hours and total viable counts (TVC) determined. Two nanocrystalline silver dressings (NSD)‡ were included for comparison.

Clinical Evaluation
A separate prospective non-comparative study was conducted using patients who underwent baseline assessment of wound aetiology, size and duration, with clinical signs of infection recorded. Patients that met the inclusion criteria (n=26) subsequently received SNA, with evaluation of clinical signs of infection conducted weekly. The primary objective of the study was to evaluate in the context of a 2-week challenge period, however as a secondary objective, assessment continued up to 4 weeks for patients still receiving SNA.

Results and Conclusion
The in vitro test results showed that both NSD and SNA have comparable activity against the bacterial strains tested, with a >5 log_{10} unit reduction in TVC achieved in ≤3 hours. The clinical evaluation reported that the SNA proved effective in reducing signs and symptoms of infection across a range of wound etiologies when used within the context of the 2012 international consensus report. Taken together the in vitro and clinical data indicate the benefits of dressings such as SNA.

Conclusions
• The SNA wound dressing displayed equivalent antimicrobial efficacy to the two nanocrystalline wound dressings (NSD 1 and 2) in vitro against two clinically relevant bacterial strains.
• In addition, the SNA dressing has been demonstrated to be effective in reducing the signs and symptoms of bacterial infection within the scope of a 2-week challenge period as per the 2012 international consensus report “Appropriate use of silver dressings in wounds.”2
• In combination, the in vitro and clinical evaluations highlight the benefits of the SNA product in the treatment of infected wounds.

References