OP-038 [Apitherapy]
WORK APPLICATION OF PROPOLIS ETHANOL EXTRACT AND OINTMENT FOR A LEG WITH GANGRENE – 5 other case reports

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The aim of this abstract is to describe the role of propolis for treatment of slow healing wounds and variety of skin disorders. To raise the popularity of propolis production from beekeepers and its application in daily life in different forms.

In the main case with a peripheral arterial disease, severe gangrene developed on the right foot. The wound was packed with a gauze soaked with 30% ethanol-based propolis extract (EEP), after evaporation of the alcohol, on a daily basis. On the surrounding area herbal propolis ointment was applied.
During the treatment the patient has taken took 30% EEP and apicocktail blend (honey, RJ, bee pollen) per os. Successful treatments were provided. I have been following this patient 15 years and he is ambulating pritty well.
Suitable dressing even for slow healing wounds with compromised circulation. Further research is needed.

Complications after an infection on a diabetic foot with partial amputation. Similar type of dressing with packing of the tunnels was provided. Complete recovery after treatment.

Chronic non-healing wound on the foot - The same treatment with complete recovery.

Venous stasis ulcer on a diabetic patient - Combination of treatment was provided, classical approach but most of the time propolis-herbal ethanol dressing and ointment.

Wound on the area of the capitis (12 years boy) – Diagnosis- Tinea capitis profunda. After treatment with fungicides and other aggresive means like iodine, dead tissue appeared. Apitherapy treatment with EEP and ointment resulted in a complete recovery.

Decubitus ulcer on both legs - Very obese patient treated for pressure ulcer on both lower legs. Daily treatment - soaked with EEP and dried, after that gauzes were utilized for packing the wound. For the peripheral part of the affected area propolis herbal ointment used to complete recovery.

In conclusion, I would say propolis can effectively stimulate the granulation tissue in slow healing wounds and speed up the recovery process.
It could be very effectively utilized for small cuts, abrasions, light contusions and wounds. It could be an effective treatment provided by medical staff for a variety of medical cases.

Sincerely yours!

Work Application of Propolis Ethanol Extract and Ointment for a Leg with Gangrene – 5 other case reports

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Internal Medicine, Apitherapy,Manual Medicine, Homeopathy





- The patient was a 57 year old male, with a peripheral arterial disease.
- At the end of October, 2010, he appeared in my office with incipient dry gangrene on the right big toe (Hallux).

- The patient was referred to the vascular clinic, conservative treatment was provided at the beginning.
- Unblocking was done to the affected arteries.
- He was discharged from the hospital for a demarcation of the gangrene and advised to come back in a couple of weeks for a scheduled partial amputation.

- The patient didn’t correctly follow the doctor’s instructions.
- Meanwhile, a severe infection developed.
- Urgent admission in a hospital was required.
- The gangrene was turning into a phlegmon.

16.01.2011



16.01.2011



16.01.2011

- Partial amputation was performed in a hospital.
- The surgeon tried to do everything to save the leg.
- The patient became septic.
- Powerful antibiotics were prescribed.
- Daily debridement on the necrotic tissue was provided.

- In this condition, I saw the patient again in the hospital.
- The infection was slowly overcome, but the condition of the leg didn’t improve.
- Very slight signs of granulation tissue were barely visible after 25 days of intense treatment in the hospital.
- The patient refused amputation, signed a consent, and he was discharged from the hospital.

- I began to treat the patient in home settlement.
- There was no pulsation on arteria dorsalis pedis.
- The leg was not looking good. The colour was bluish-purple.

2.02.2011

After just a couple days of treatment, visible signs of improvement were noticeable.
The size of the wound was: 6 by 5 by 2.3 cm.



2.02.2011-The wound was cleaned from inside with saline and packed with propolis soaked (dry) gauze after the evaporation of the alcohol. The ointment was applied on the edges and around the wound.



After that propolis soaked gauze (wet) covered the surrounding area of the wound. It was amazing to see how the colour of the skin was changing in the border area.



13.02.2011



17.02.2011



The persisting tunnels should be packed well.



- In this way the dressing was changed daily until the wound became superficial.

25.02.2011



3.03.2011





9.03.2011 When the wound became shallow only ointment was applied

16.03.2011



18.03.2011



5.04.2011



7.04.2011



11.04.2011



27.04.2011



5.05.2011



10.05.2011



5.06.2011



8.06.2011



8.06.2011 -The wound was almost closed after five months of intensive treatment



16.01.2011



8.06.2011



- During the treatment (for some period) the propolis extract was enriched with herbal blend of:

  Smoke tree, Saint John herb, Marigold,

  Plantago major leaves and other herbs.

  Positive result was reported.

  Further research will be needed!

2025



2025



- During treatment the patient was taking propolis internally (hydroalcoholic sol.)
- **Since then he has taken propolis almost constantly. Approximately 2 bottles (60 ml) monthly (20-30 dropes twice daily) with a couple of days rest every two weeks**

He also takes honey - 1-2 kg monthly.

In 2016 he developed iron deficiency anemia and Apicoctail.

(honey, bee polen, royal jelly) and honey dew honey were prescribed.

He continues to smoke and drinks moderately with unhealthy ways of eating.

Walks around 2 km daily.

There are no more muscle cramps (claudicatio intermittence) during walking.

The pulsation on arteria dorsalis pedis has become slightly noticeable.

Conclusions

- The most important in this case is that this patien with major blokages in the main artheries has been surviving very successfuly even without periferal vasodilaters for 15 years.
- One of the explanations in this case is that propolis could play a major role in redeveloping collateral blood vessels and stimulate the growth of new granulation tissue when applied locally and internally.
- Helps to improve the rheology of the blood in the smallest vessels.
- Patients with PAD, arterial compromised circulation and diabetes should take propolis internally on a long term basis.
- Further research will be needed in this area.

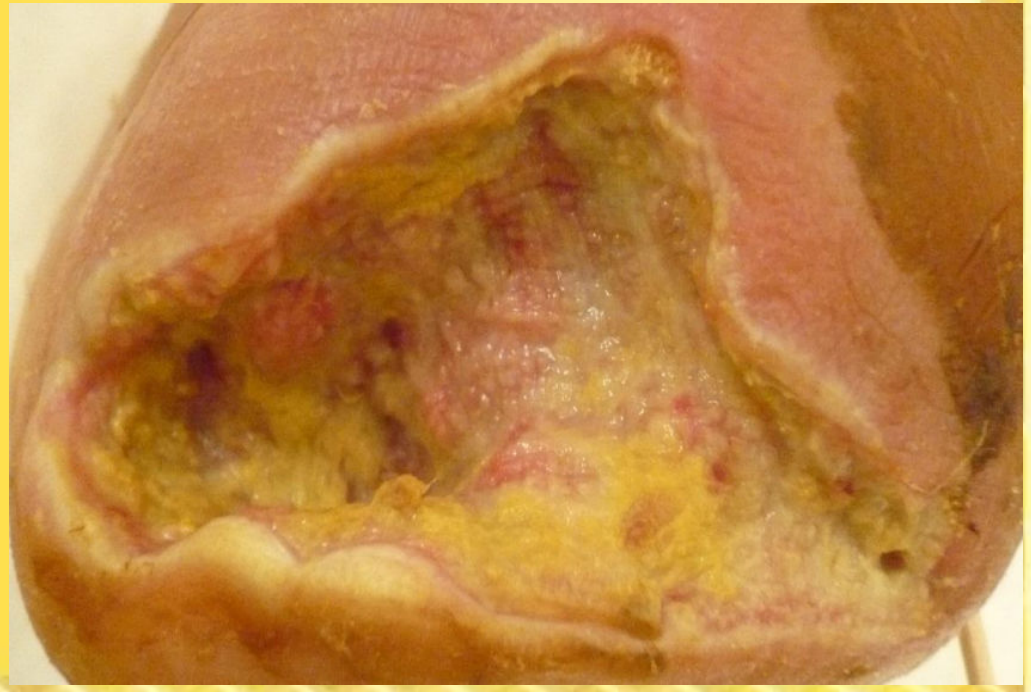
Complications after diabetic foot partial amputation

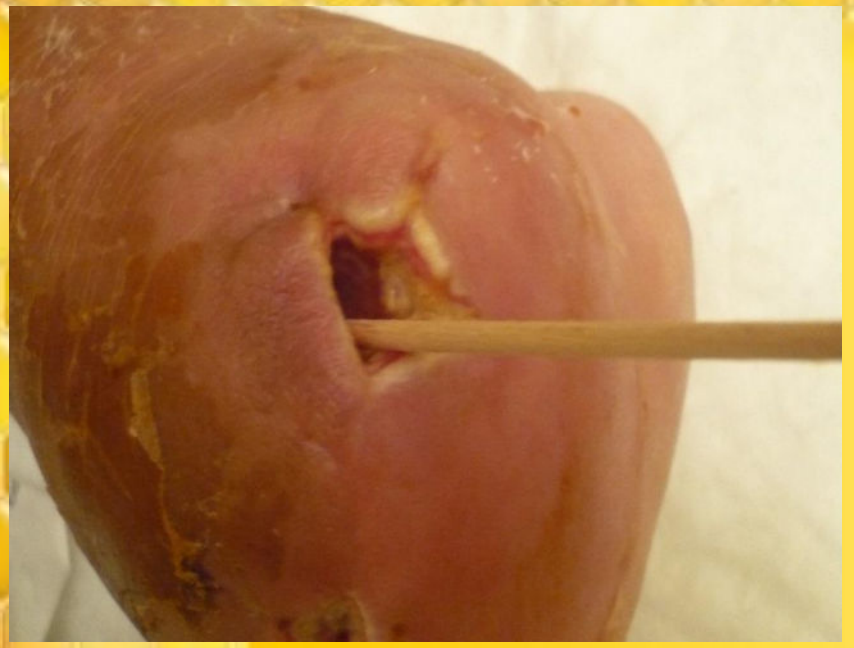
- The patient was a 60 year old male with IDDM on insulin.
- After discharge from the hospital he developed very serious complications with infection and tunneling on the amputated part of the foot.
- After regular debridment and applyng propolis soaked(dry) dressing plus ointment, noticeable improvement was quickly visible.

















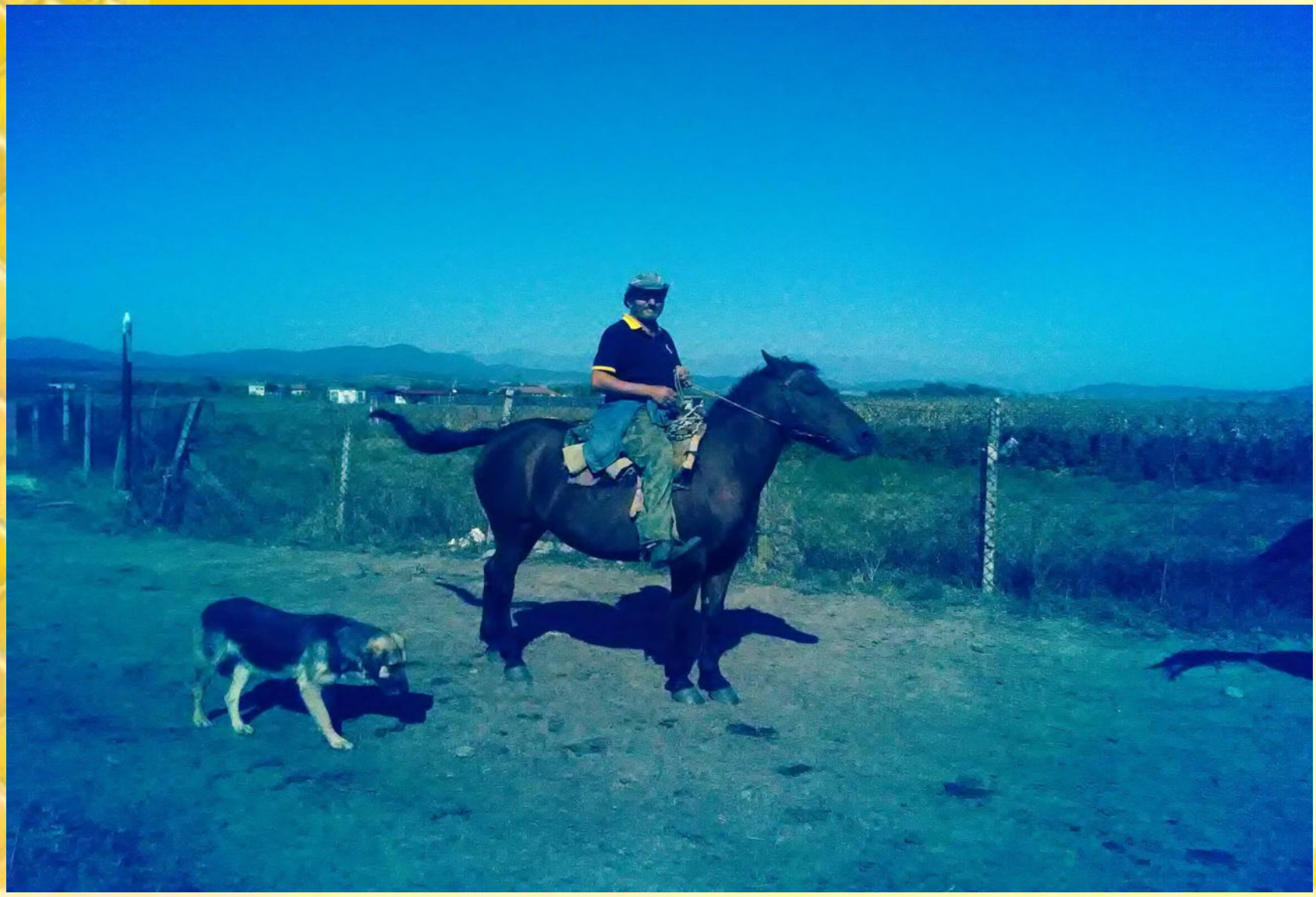





Last picture- 5.10.2018



After a full recovery the patient is having a normal life and even works in the family farm





Chronic non healing wound on the foot (heel region)

- The patient is a young man with no other diseases.
- He poked his foot in the garden four years ago
- After multiple hospitalisations and even a skin graft transplant, the wound has not yet healed.
- The same treatment was provided with a successful result.








Venous stasis ulcer on a diabetic patient - 2024



- Similar treatment plus elastic stacking was provided.
- Spent most of the day time with a raised leg.
- Arnica montana 9 CH, 5 granules daily
- Slight surgical and enzyme debridement
- The patient took propolis tincture and acacia honey.
- Very difficult case to treat, took a long time.











Decubitus ulcer on rear part of the lower leg- 2008



21 December 2008

- The whole leg looked swollen and reddish
- The wound size was 11x12 cm
- The wound was heavily secreting
- The PEE soaked gauze was applied



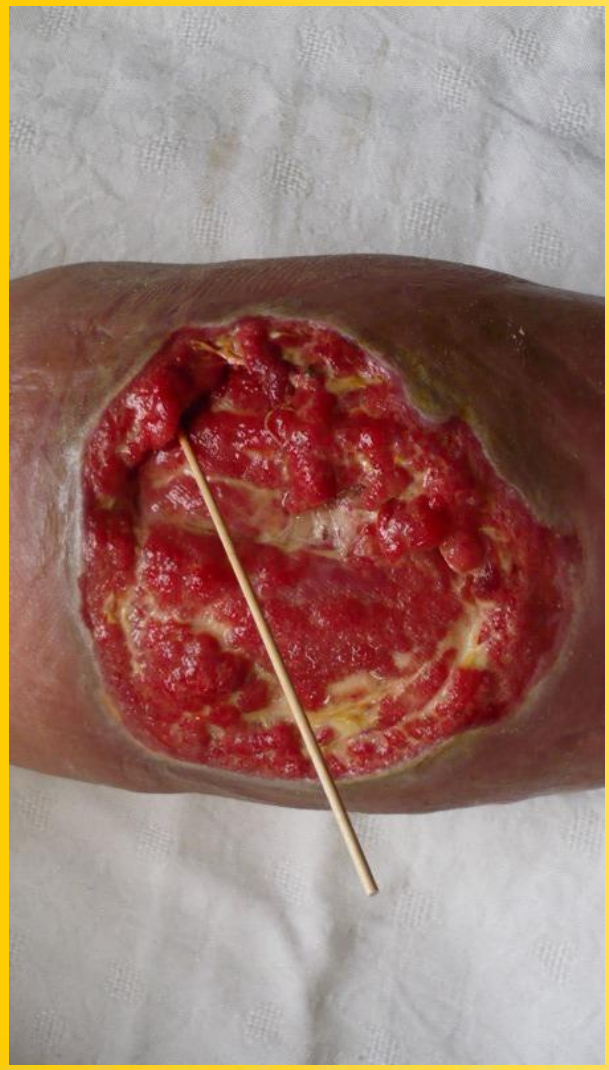
23 December 2008

- Deep tissue debridement was provided, using sterile techniques
- PEE soaked and dried after that gauze was applied



1 January 2009

- The fat tissue between the muscle layers was necrotising
- Second debridment was performed
- PEE soaked and dried gauze was applied



6 January 2009

- The persisting tunnels should be packed with PEE
- Size was 10.5x11x2
- Plenty of granulation tissue was covering the bottom of the wound



21 January 2009

- The wound had visibly improved
- The patient was discharged from the hospital where he had been admitted for 10 days for CHF



21 January 2009

- In the hospital the patient was strongly pushed to stay in bed
- Very important for wounds with DVI
- Islands of necrotic tissue were noted



- After careful examination of the wound, I noticed that the tunnels were closed from the outside, not in the usual manner from the inside out.



I had to reopen all tunnels and start from the beginning.
The tunels were:
at 3 o’clock - 2 cm
at 5 o’clock - 3,5 cm,
at 9 o’clock - 1,8 cm



- All tunnels and the wound were packed with PEE soaked and dried gauze



- For a long time, I've been wondering how to quickly and efficiently remove the alcohol from the propolis tincture
- During the summer or hot weather, soaking the gauze ahead of time will be good enough



- Another way of doing it during the winter time is:
- Sprinkle the tincture on a sterile gauze and unfold it on a chemically clean pan and gently heated
- The alcohol will evaporate in a couple of minutes and the gauze will be ready for dressing



19 February 2009

- Size of the wound was 7x9 cm
  Size of the tunnels were:
  -3 o'clock 1,3 cm,
  -5 o'clock 1,8 cm,
  -9 o'clock 0,9 cm.



3 March 2009

- Size of the wound was 7x5,2 cm
- No tunnels, visible improvement was noted
- Propolis/calendula ointment was utilized



16 March 2009

- Propolis/calendula ointment was applied
- Slight hypergranulation was visible

Chronic wound on the capitis of a 12 year old boy after tinea capitis infection Similar treatment




Sterimed
Sterimed







Basic Apitherapy principals in wound treatment

- Classical diagnosis and evaluation of the wound should be provided, when needed, classical treatment is provided.
- Propolis tincture after evaporation of the alcohol is the best choice for deep wounds with tunneling.
- Should be successfuly utilized for cleansing the area around the wound.
- Always clean the inside of the wound with saline solution.
- Propolis herbal ointment is suitable for shallow wounds and on the periphery and surrounding area.
- Almost no antibiotics are required during treatment.
- Honey dressing is also very good for some of the cases.
- Internal application of suitable bee products (Honey, RJ, Bee pollen).

Conclusions

- In conclusion, I would say propolis can effectively stimulate the granulation tissue in slow healing wounds and speed up the recovery process.
- It could be very effectively utilized for small cuts, abrasions, light contusions and wounds. It could be an effective treatment provided by medical staff for a variety of medical cases.

Art beekeeping - four seasons











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