

A crural ulcer is defined as a disorder of skin cover continuity of lower extremities, different morphologies and etiopathogeneses which cannot be healed within 4 - 8 weeks despite the appropriate therapy. Thus it is not a single diagnostical unit but a complex of symptoms.

The healing of chronic ulcerations is a complex and dynamic action whose aim is to renew the eroded skin cover integrity. In general, the course of the healing can be divided into three phases – the inflammation phase (exsudative, cleaning), the proliferation phase (granulation) and the epithelization phase which penetrate each other. Good knowledge of the course and specifications of the particular healing phases is the key for the right choice of the medical therapy and the proper cover material which fully respects the wound needs.

The crural ulcer therapy is a medical branch with a wide interdisciplinary field of activity, and the doctor involved should be able to view the patient's crural ulcer as a surgeon, a dermatologist, an internist, a diabetologist, a microbiologist, an orthotist, a physiotherapist, an ergotherapist and a nutrition therapist at the same time.

The medical procedure has to be complex, professional and economical enough to make the patient's life as good as possible. A complex approach to the crural ulcer therapy is based on the concurrence of an overall, local and physical treatment together with rehabilitation, spa cure and prevention.

The aim of the local treatment is cleaning the wound and the support of the epithelization and granulation phase with the assistance of the proper cover material which fully respects the particular healing phases. The local treatment of crural ulcers has changed significantly during the last decades. New knowledge gradually led to implementation of so called phase moist wound healing. During this procedure, the cell activities of the particular healing phases can be stimulated enough to achieve the right healing process. The choice of the proper cover material results from the current wound needs, qualities of the selected cover and the patient's tolerance.