

Making Waves with Gentell

The **Gentell** Insider

UNUSUAL SKIN CONDITIONS - PART 2

December

Calciophylaxis

What is it?

Calciophylaxis is a serious, uncommon disease in which calcium accumulates in small blood vessels of the fat and skin tissues. Calciophylaxis causes painful skin ulcers and may cause serious infections that can lead to death.

People who have calciophylaxis usually have kidney failure and are on dialysis or recently had a kidney transplant.

How does it occur?

Calciophylaxis most commonly affects people who have end-stage kidney failure. Possible risk factors include:

- Being female
- Obesity
- Long-term dialysis and sometimes kidney transplantation
- An imbalance of calcium, phosphorus and aluminum in the body
- Some medications, such as calcium-binding agents or corticosteroids
- An overproduction of parathyroid hormone (PTH)
- Uremia
- An abnormality in blood-clotting factors

How is it treated?

Calciophylaxis requires specialists in nephrology, dermatology, plastic surgery, endocrinology, infectious disease and other areas to work together.

Topical treatments for calciophylaxis should be discussed and driven through a team approach as it is not always appropriate to debride. Pain control is a must as well as appropriate therapies based on wound exudate and devitalized tissue to the wound bed including non adherent dressings such as Xeroform, Oil Emulsion or Petrolatum gauze. Collagen, Honey gauze/alginate, Hydrogel or Foam dressings may also be beneficial depending on drainage amount and wound bed tissue.



Recipe of the Month

Favorite Bourbon Pecan Pie



What you need:

- ◆ 1/2 cup white sugar
- ◆ 1/2 cup brown sugar
- ◆ 3 tblsp melted butter
- ◆ 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- ◆ 3 eggs, beaten
- ◆ 2 tblsp bourbon
- ◆ 2 cups pecan halves
- ◆ 1 (9") unbaked deep dish pie crust

Make it:

- Preheat oven to 375 F.
- Mix the white sugar, brown sugar and butter in a bowl. Stir in the corn syrup, eggs and bourbon; fold in the pecans. Pour the mixture in the unbaked pie crust.
- Bake for 10 min at 375; reduce heat to 350. Continue to bake until the pie is set, about 25 min more.
- Allow to cool completely on a wire rack before serving.

Enjoy!

Source: Reprinted from the MayoClinic.com article "Calciophylaxis" (<http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/calciophylaxis/home/ovc-20157298>)
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Gentell leads the wound care industry in new product development and innovative cost-containment (capitation) programs for hospitals, nursing homes and home health agencies.

