

Skin Prep and ostomy barriers:

Great question! Skin prep is not recommended under the Coloplast Ostomy adhesives because they are designed to stick directly to clean dry skin.

Let me explain. The polymers in our hydrocolloid adhesives are pressure sensitive and heat activated. The pressure sensitive feature works like a post it note, it needs to be pressed into place to stick. This gives the system its initial stick or tack. The “heat” activated property is achieved when the adhesive is applied to the skin, the polymers warm to skin temperature and “flow” onto the creases and crevasses of the skin. This allows the adhesive to “anchor” onto the skin. This is where the full adhesion is achieved. If you use skin prep, that liquid polymer leaves a flat slick surface on the skin. Skin prep actually can interfere with adhesion. It’s like putting saran wrap between Velcro! :).

The WOCN Society actually recommends not using skin prep on clean dry intact skin under Ostomy products; it’s not necessary and may interfere with adhesion. A “no sting” prep can be used with the crusting technique. Skin prep is really designed for use under tape adhesives that are frequently removed.

Attached is the WOCN skin care guide that talks about the use of accessory products.

Hope this helps! If you have further questions, feel free to call my Clinical Consultant Ann Page who is a CWON, usacp@coloplast.com 678-431-6127.