

The Continuum of Convex Barrier Options

Convex barrier products have been utilized to help provide a secure and predictable seal. Product selection is made by matching stomal protrusion and peristomal contours to the appropriate barriers. The outward curving of the convex skin barrier is designed to interface with the immediate peristomal skin.

This interface depends not only on the depth, rigidity and gradient of the convex skin barrier but also on the shape and rigidity of the abdominal wall. For example, a flexible convex barrier can bend and move with the body; a firm convex skin barrier does not bend, rather it remains rigid. Appropriate barrier choice is left to the clinician's assessment of the patient and knowledge of ostomy products.

BARRIER EXAMPLE	POSSIBLE CLINICAL CASE SCENARIOS
 <p>Flat Skin Barrier</p>	 <p>Flat Skin Barrier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat peristomal plane • Adequate stoma protrusion • Centered stoma opening
 <p>Flat Skin Barrier with Round or Oval Convex Barrier Ring</p>	 <p>Flexible Convexity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stoma flush with skin • Uneven peristomal plane • Off-centered stoma opening
 <p>Integrated Soft Convex Barrier</p>	 <p>Soft Convexity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gentle pressure required to peristomal plane • Flush stoma • Peristomal injury
 <p>Integrated Convex Barrier</p>	 <p>Firm Convexity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creases or folds in peristomal plane • Off-centered stoma opening • Stoma retracted below skin surface
 <p>Integrated Convex Barrier with Round or Oval Convex Barrier Ring</p>	 <p>Firm Convexity with More Depth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recessed or flush stoma • Uneven abdominal contours • Off-centered stoma opening

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References:

- 1 J.C. Colwell, M.T. Goldberg, & J.E. Carmel (Eds). (2015). WOCN Society Core Curriculum Ostomy Management. Chapter 10. Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer
- 2 JHoeflok, J et al. Use of convexity in ostomy care: Results of an International Consensus Meeting. JWOCN, January/February 2017

For product questions, sampling needs, or detailed clinical questions concerning our products in the US, call **1.888.808.7456**. In Canada call **1.800.263.7400**.

Routine follow-up with your healthcare professional is recommended.

Prior to using any ostomy products/accessories be sure to read all product inserts and labels.

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