Objective: To investigate the clinical performance and safety of a new silver-containing wound-contact layer, Physiotulle - Ag (Coloplast), in the treatment of chronic venous leg ulcers with delayed healing and signs of critical colonisation.

Method: This was an open prospective non-comparative multicentre clinical study. Patients were treated for four weeks with Physiotulle - Ag, which was covered by Alione Hydrocapillary Dressing (Coloplast).

Results: Thirty patients were recruited into the study. One ulcer healed after three weeks of treatment. The mean relative ulcer area reduced by 55% after four weeks. Over the study period the mean amount of healthy granulation tissue increased from 26% to 62%, and the mean amount of fibrin decreased from 63% to 32%. The ratio of malodorous wounds was 50% at inclusion, 20% after one week and 3% after four weeks. The dressing was considered easy or very easy to apply in 100% and easy to remove in 89% of dressing evaluations. The dressing combination showed good exudate-management properties. Incidence and severity of maceration, erythema and eczema decreased during the study and no device-related adverse events were recorded. Conclusion: Physiotulle - Ag is safe and easy to use in chronic venous leg ulcers in which healing is delayed and with signs of critical colonisation.