The following studies refer to the original Helixderm ointment.
The therapeutic action of alkanna tinctoria root extract in the conservative treatment of partial-thickness burn injuries

The study was random and compared ointment treatment with conventional conservative treatment. Forty out-patients in the Plastic Surgery Department of the general State Hospital, Athens, were studied. Twenty patients were treated with the ointment and the remaining 20 with the usual conservative treatment. The patients’ medical history was taken, including all the medicaments used prior to our treatment. A record of simultaneously administered treatment was also kept.

Following treatment, the site of injury was cleaned with water and mild soap and a thin layer of the ointment (about 0.5 min) was applied to the wound. The wound dressing was completed by a regular gauze and bandage. The same procedure was followed for the second group, but Fucidin gauze and Betadine solution were applied instead of ointment. Each patient was seen on a regular basis every 2-3 days for a period of 15 days. Neither group presented signs of reinfection. It is worth noting that the group treated with ointment showed an accelerated healing rate following the second and third change of dressings, i.e. 3 - 6 days post injury.

One common characteristic was the absence of a feeling of tension and itching, which were apparent in almost every patient subjected to the usual conservative treatment.

During the first days in the group treated with ointment we noticed increased moisture on the burn surface which soaked the dressings. It was first thought that the yellowish thick-consistency fluid was a sign of infection, but cultures displayed a clean trauma, free of pathogenic bacteria. The fluid disappeared at the next change of dressings, i.e. after 2-3 days, without any changes in the treatment.

Comparative Study Between Ointment Containing Alkanna Tinctoria Oily Extract with Known Healing Pad

The results of comparative clinical study of the ointment, against well-known healing pad activated carbon impregnated with silver, are listed below. The study was conducted in Dermatology Clinic of the Benjamin Franklin University (Berlin).

Granulation: A very good granulation was observed for the 47% of the patients which used the ointment, while the amount was only 19% for the group which used activated charcoal pad impregnated with silver.

Epithelization: The results were also impressive, 53% of patients for the group of ointment, compared to 25% for the group of patients which used charcoal pad impregnated with silver.
Leg Ulcers

Scheme 1. Showing the response to treatment with ointment containing Alkanna Tinctoria oily extract A) before treatment, B) after 2 weeks, and C) after 18 weeks of treatment

Scheme 2. Diagrammatical presentation of the cicatrization of the ulcer of the same patient during the period of treatment (6.10.76 to 10.28.76) at the dermatological ward of the Heidberg Hospital (Hamburg, Germany).

Wound healing properties of naphthaquinone pigments from Alkanna tinctoria, Papageorgiou VP. Experientia 1978;34( 11 ): 1499-14501
Scheme 3. An indolent ulcer before (right) and after (left) four weeks of treatment with ointment. The patient was a 62-year-old woman and the ulcer on her right leg was previously unresponsive to treatment for ten years.

Chemistry and Biology of Alkannins, Shikonins and Related Naphthazarin Natural Products, Papageorgiou VP, et al. Angewandte Chemie 1999a; 38(3) :270-301
Diabetic Foot Ulcer

Diabetic patient aged 50 years suffered from two ulcers on the lower end, which was constantly growing despite treatment with powerful antibiotics. After debridement and antimicrobial treatment, the ointment was applied to create granulation tissue. The treatment was successful and satisfactory since granulation tissue above tendons was formed and skin grafting was performed, saving thus the lower end of the patient from amputation. The study was conducted at the clinic Surgical Oncology of the University General Hospital of Heraklion under the supervision of Mr. Andrew Maniou.

Scheme 4. Healing of Diabetic ulcer during treatment with ointment.

Decubitus Ulcer

Paraplegic patient aged 40 years, was suffering from decubitus ulcer in lumbosacral region lasting two years uncovering even the sacrum. The ointment was applied after debridement and removal of necrotic tissue. The ulcer healed smoothly without surgery. The study was conducted at the clinic Surgical Oncology of the University General Hospital of Heraklion under the supervision of Mr. Andrew Manios.

Scheme 5. (a) before treatment, (b) after 50-day treatment with ointment containing Alkanna Tinctoria oily extract (y) after 4-month treatment

Deficit Chest Wall with Severe Sepsis

A large deficit chest-wall with severe sepsis initially treated with local therapy with ointment and after granulation, a skin graft.

after treatment
Cancer Case

Before treatment

After debridement

1-month treatment with ointment

5-month treatment with ointment