FAQS BleedSolv™ and Colloidal Silver

We have not run any clinical comparisons but provide the following technical comparison information for you.

BleedSolv™	**GelaTamp**
Regenerated Cellulose	Foam (gelatin) and colloidal silver
Bacteriostatic – maintains a sterile site	Claims of Bactericidal due to some research showing silver particles adhere to bacteria compromising their cell wall. While test-tube research has shown that colloidal silver kills a wide range of bacteria, fungi, and viruses, it has yet to be proven in human studies due to the risks associated with ingesting colloidal silver (8Trusted Source). No clinical studies available for this claim in this application (unlike Surgicel that provides extensive budget into the bactericidal properties of its product and the specific bacteria for which is it effective).
Infection to be treated separately Antibiotics remain the most effective treatment of infection	Infection to be treated separately. Colloidal silver is not a sufficient treatment for bacterial infection (see references below). Colloidal silver is not as effective as antibiotics in the treatment of infection and was abandoned as a treatment for infection when antibiotics were discovered https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30373130/
Product breaks down to polysaccharides and water in 24-48 hours, safe to ingest	Product does not break down but is usually not harmful for ingestion. In rare cases, there are reactions to porcine-based products (see our notes on the gelatine products in our product comparison sheet). GelaTamp takes four (4) weeks to be absorbed. Due to the ability of colloidal silver to incite oxidation and cell damage, silver particle and ions may also harm healthy, human cells (8Trusted Source, 9Trusted Source, 11Trusted Source, 12Trusted Source)
Absolutely no additives or allergens. No adverse effects.	The product is an additive – pig (porcine-based/gelatine) and silver particles.

	Colloidal silver is not thought to be safe to be taken by mouth as a supplement (Brent A. Bauer, MD, Mayo Clinic). Silver is not an essential mineral for the human body. Little research has been done to study the health claims (including bactericidal claims) and some manufacturers have been disciplined by the Food and Drug Administration for making unproven health claims. However, colloidal silver is becoming a popular product. It is not clear how much you can take before it may be harmful. It builds up in your tissues, is cumulative. In rare cases, colloidal silver can cause kidney and liver damage and neurological damaged and seizures (these doses likely well exceed those contained in GelaTamp). Colloidal silver can also interact with other medications, such as some antibiotics and levothyroxine. https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/consumer-health/expert-answers/colloidal-silver/faq-20058061
Regenerated cellulose has a long, well supported history of safe and effective application in the dental field and is very cost-effective per use	Dental use of colloidal silver involves using orally a product that is declared not safe for oral administration, but safe for topical use. There is little to no research to support this application. The product is TGA-registered, so considered 'safe' for specific uses at a Class III level. The question arises (given that the efficacy of silver ions as a bactericidal is impacted by the size and number of particles) whether the dosage of silver particles (that needs to be small to be considered 'safe' by the TGA) is still effective for bactericidal use? Colloidal silver is a popular remedy in alternative medicine. Colloidal silver has been declared unsafe by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) since 1999. In fact, the FDA deemed that all over-the-counter products that contain colloidal silver ingredients or silver salts are not generally recognized as safe or effective (1Trusted Source, 2). Since then, regulatory bodies have not approved any new colloidal silver 'drugs' on the market. However, this product is still commonly sold as a dietary supplement (1Trusted Source, 2). Any company that produces silver products that are labelled or promoted to prevent or cure disease must undergo regulatory approval prior to marketing. Otherwise, the product is considered misbranded and is subject to regulatory action (3).

	Colloidal silver is approved for topical application on skin infections, skin wounds, and in bandages and dressings for the treatment of burns. However, colloidal silver drugs that are marketed for oral intake are not legal for sale (1Trusted Source). https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/colloidal-silver#:~:text=Colloidal%20silver%20is%20said%20to,8%20%2C%209%20%2C%2010%20).
The product activates in the presence of saliva and blood (and other fluids such as saline and water) No cumulative effect as no additives or allergens	Colloidal silver's mechanisms are not fully understood yet. GelaTamp releases silver ions in the presence of fluids, such as saliva and body fluids. Research suggests that the effects of colloidal silver vary depending on the size and shape of the particles of silver, as well as their concentration in a solution (8Trusted Source, 9Trusted Source, 10Trusted Source, 11Trusted Source) Colloidal silver products are not standardised by regulatory bodies and may have serious side effects. Production methods vary as well as the size and number of silver particles.
TGA registered Class IIa (no reporting requirements) for topical use Class II medical devices are those devices that have a moderate to high risk to the patient and/or user. 43% of medical devices fall under this category. Most medical devices are considered Class II devices.	TGA registered Class III (high risk) for topical use Class III medical devices are those devices that have a high risk to the patient and/or user. These devices usually sustain or support life, are implanted, or present potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury. They represent 10% of medical devices regulated by the FDA To date, the only effective use of colloidal silver in humans is topical application to wounds and burns. Even then, its benefits are widely debated (1Trusted Source, 13Trusted Source).

Due to the lack of efficacy (compared to antibiotics and other modern products) of colloidal silver and its potential side-effects; we believe it is better to use products with no additives or allergens and with a proven history of efficacy and cost-effectiveness, such as **BleedSolv™**. If a bactericidal product is required (e.g., for internal surgery), we recommend a product such as Surgicel ™ by Johnson and Johnson.