

**TOPICAL NEGATIVE PRESSURE (TNP)\* THERAPY IN THE HOME CARE SITUATION**

Marieke van Duijvenbode, Louk van Doorn, Pascal Steenvoorde

*Rijnland Ziekenhuis, Leiderdorp, Netherlands*

**Background:** Topical negative pressure therapy\* is used since 1995 and growing evidence made TNP therapy been adopted as standard of care in wound care management.<sup>3, 4, 7, 8</sup> However literature on the use of TNP therapy in the home care setting is scarce, most literature is from hospital use.

**Methods:** A retrospective study is performed of 140 patients who were polyclinically treated with TNP therapy for 13 different indications, between December of 2005 and October 2008 at a single institution.

**Results:** A total of 140 patients with 146 wounds were treated with TNP therapy, 74 male and 66 female, with a mean age of. 57,5 years ( $\pm$  19,2). 92% of all patients had a good outcome, 8% had a bad outcome. A total of 37 complications occurred, of which 6 had eventually a bad outcome and 31 had a good outcome. Only 12 complications were typical for home care treatment, one of those had a bad outcome.

**Conclusions:** Almost all patients in this study had eventually a good outcome of treatment with TNP therapy at home. There did occur some complications, but only 12 were a consequence of the home care situation. Only one of them had eventually a bad outcome. A good instruction how to use the TNP system might prevent some complications.

\* Vacuum Assisted Closure Therapy (VAC)