

USING A NEW TECHNIQUE OF NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND THERAPY (NPWT) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF NON-HEALING WOUNDS*

Thomas Eberlein¹, Helmut Fendler², Martin Abel³, Michael Schmitz³

¹Wound Competence Centre, Linz, Austria ²Gesundheits Manager, Nürnberg, Germany,

³Lohmann & Rauscher, Neuwied, Germany

Aim: When considering optimal treatment conditions for acute and chronic wounds, certain criteria for readiness to heal are ideal. Most clinicians would agree these include a clean wound free from bacterial invasion, manageable amounts of exudate and, if necessary, is responsive to adjunctive treatments for wound healing. NPWT has become an acceptable adjunctive therapy in the management of wounds. While results of this therapy is undisputed, more robust clinical data is warranted as new and different modes of NPWT are becoming available.

Methods: This study represents data collected for a new technique of NPWT based on an open, monocentric, prospective, clinical trial of 30 cases of patients with chronic, non-healing wounds of different etiologies. Specific endpoints for this study included:

Ease of use with the new system (pump and dressing)

Microbial and exudation control

Readiness for wound healing (eruption of clean granulation)

Edema reduction

Patient's quality of life (pain profile)

Results / discussion: Results with this new therapy proved to be positive. The system was reported to be simple and easy to use. In all cases, adequate control of exudate was achieved and microbial load was manageable. Additionally, significant reduction of edema and wound size was appreciated in 92.3% of the cases. Wound reduction rate average was 64.9% over an average length of therapy of 42 days.

The use of a new system to deliver NPWT was found to be an adequate adjunctive therapy for the treatment of patients with acute and chronic wounds.

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