

# Algorithm: When to use NPWT\*

Patient with wound eligible for NPWT?



Consider if patient requires less disruptive NPWT to mitigate issues with pain, social implications, bulky units, economics

Is wound small, moderate exuding?  
80mmHg suitable pressure for wound?  
Wound smaller than 100cm squared?

No



Traditional NPWT

Yes

## Acute/dehisced wound

Less than 2cm deep with no undermining

Assess for signs of infection – apply ACTICOAT<sup>◊</sup> Flex if present

More than 300cc per week

No

Continue with PICO

More than 2cm deep with/without undermining or tunnels

Use filler to fill dead space with silver/ amd gauze/foam

Yes

Consider changing to traditional NPWT

## High risk closed surgical wound/skin graft

Place PICO over closed incision line or skin graft and leave in place for 3-7 days or until dressing is full with fluid

Is system (both dressings) filled with fluid prior to 3 days?

Yes

No

Continue with PICO

## Chronic wounds

Pressure ulcers, DFU

Use filler to fill dead space with silver/ amd gauze/foam

Difficult to attain seal

Consider ostomy paste/putty to fill cleft (use for all difficult to seal wounds)<sup>†</sup>

Venous leg ulcers

Documented ABI prior to compression

Assess for compression. PICO may be worn under compression. ACTICOAT Flex may be used under the PICO Dressing if signs of infection are present.

Assess for healing every 2 weeks to ensure goals of therapy are met

\* Used by permission from: Hurd T, Trueman P, Rossington A. Clinical performance of PICO Single-Use, Disposable Negative Pressure Wound Therapy in wounds of mixed aetiology: A case series. Wounds UK, Harrogate. 2012.  
<sup>†</sup>PICO to be placed over wound with port placed uppermost at opposite end of wound

## Cost of PICO<sup>®</sup> compared to previous dressings (in Canadian \$)<sup>1</sup>

	Treatment	
	tNPWT	PICO
Average number dressing changes per month	11.7	5.4
Average number weeks for treatment	13.1	8.8
Total number of dressing changes to heal	38.3	11.8
Labor cost per visit	\$57	\$57
Total labor cost per wound patient	\$2,184	\$672
Average material (dressings, etc.) cost per visit	\$225	\$201
Total material cost per wound patient	\$8,658	\$2,366
<b>Total cost per wound patient</b>	<b>\$10,842</b>	<b>\$3,038</b>



## Patients can discreetly and comfortably go about their daily lives<sup>2</sup>

- Pocket-sized PICO System is easy to wear<sup>2</sup> compared with traditional NPWT devices<sup>1</sup>
- Single use system can be worn for up to 7 days, depending on exudate levels
- May help reduce patients' length of stay in the hospital



### References

1. Hurd T, Trueman P, Rossington A. Clinical performance of PICO Single-Use, Disposable Negative Pressure Wound Therapy in wounds of mixed aetiology: A case series. Wounds UK, Harrogate. 2012.
2. OC DOF/012 A prospective, open, non-comparative, multi-centre study to evaluate the functionality and dressing performance of a new negative pressure enhanced dressing in acute wounds.

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