

+ Evidence in focus

Publication summary: Hampton J, et al. *Br J Community Nurs* (2015)*

Use of PICO[◇] Single Use Negative Pressure Wound Therapy System (sNPWT) for 14 days can help kick start healing in chronic hard-to-heal wounds with estimated cost savings

+ Plus points



6-fold increase
in wound healing with PICO sNPWT for 14 days versus prior standard treatment



10 weeks
Target wound size achieved quicker
with PICO sNPWT than with standard treatment



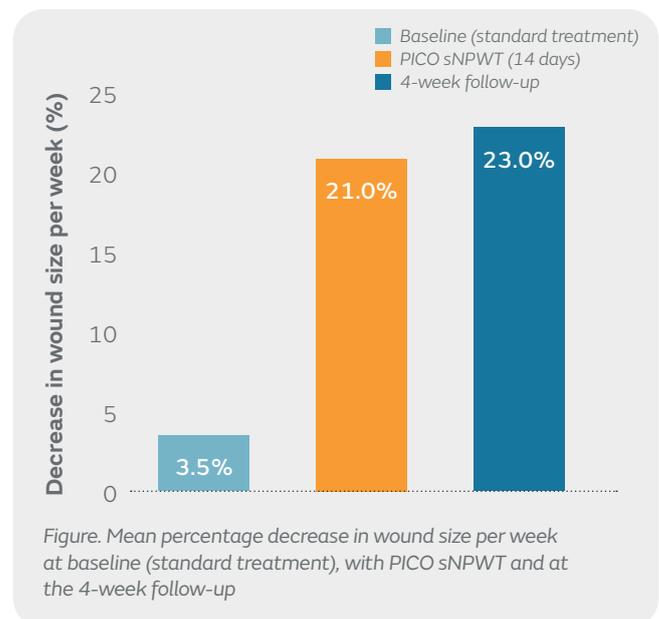
Mean savings of Danish Kroner 6,670 (€895) per patient using PICO sNPWT compared with prior standard treatment

Overview

- Cohort case study of nine patients with hard-to-heal wounds treated in the community setting for >6 weeks
 - Venous leg ulcers (n=4) had a mean duration of 34 weeks and area of 23.7cm²
 - Pressure ulcers (n=5) had a mean duration of 52 weeks and area of 12cm²
- Patients received PICO sNPWT for 2 weeks followed by standard treatment appropriate for each wound
- Rate of healing was monitored every 2–4 weeks until healed or until the end of the 1-year study

Results

- PICO sNPWT helped to kick start wound healing (6-fold increase from baseline); the increased rate of healing continued after switching to standard treatment at 4-week follow-up (Figure)
- Target wound size achieved with PICO sNPWT was reached, on average, 10 weeks earlier than predicted for standard treatment
- Number of dressing changes was reduced from 4.0 per week at baseline to 2.0 per week with PICO sNPWT and 1.8 per week at 4-week follow-up
- Time to change dressings also reduced from 28min at baseline to 22min both with PICO sNPWT and after return to standard treatment
- After stopping PICO sNPWT treatment, average weekly cost of standard treatment was three-fold less than baseline, with 6.5 times greater weekly change in wound size
- Wound size reductions were achieved with a mean saving of 6.8 weeks equivalent to Danish Kroner 6,670 (€895) using PICO sNPWT instead of standard treatment
- Six wounds healed during the study; five of which healed rapidly within 13 weeks of stopping PICO sNPWT



Conclusions

Use of PICO sNPWT for 14 days helped to kick start the healing of chronic hard-to-heal wounds, which resulted in faster overall rates of healing and reduced costs compared with previous standard treatment.

Citation

*Hampton J. Providing cost-effective treatment of hard-to-heal wounds in the community through use of NPWT. *Br J Community Nurs*. 2015;S14 (Suppl Community Wound Care): S16–S20.

Available at: [British Journal of Community Nursing](#)

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