V.A.C.® Therapy: Designed For Better Wound Care

For use with both the V.A.C. ATS®, V.A.C. Freedom®, InfoV.A.C.® and ActiV.A.C.® Therapy Units

Note: The V.A.C.® Dressing should be changed once every 48-72 hours, but no less than three times a week. For infected wounds, dressings may need to be changed more often.

Preparation:

Wound (suitable for open granulating wounds)

- Remove previous dressing - you can use sterile saline if V.A.C.® Therapy is already in place
- Thoroughly cleanse and irrigate the wound
- Accurate wound assessment - measure once weekly or when change occurs
- Cleanse and thoroughly dry the periwound area
- You may apply a skin preparation e.g. liquid barrier film to the periwound

Dressing Application:

1. V.A.C.® Foam:
   - Cut the V.A.C.® Foam to the wound dimensions. Gently rub the edges of the freshly cut foam to remove any loose pieces
   - Gently place foam into the wound cavity - avoid contact on the periwound skin
   - Cover the entire base and sides, tunnels and undermined areas - use more than one piece if necessary and document the number of pieces placed in the wound

2. V.A.C.® Drape:
   - Size and trim the V.A.C.® Drape to allow a 3 – 5cm border
   - Apply over entire wound - if it is easier you can cut the drape into smaller pieces
   - Keep excess V.A.C.® Drape in a clean package to patch any difficult areas later
   - Lift the drape with thumb and forefinger and cut a hole approximately 2.4cm. This ensures the sensing lumens are in contact with the GranuFoam®

3. SensaT.R.A.C.® Pad:
   - Apply the SensaT.R.A.C.® Pad opening directly over the hole in the V.A.C.® Drape
   - Apply gentle pressure to ensure a seal
   - Apply an additional piece of drape to anchor the tubing if necessary

Commencing Therapy:

- Ensure the tubing is connected and both clamps are open
- Press the power button on – adjust therapy settings if necessary
- In less than 1 minute of operation, the V.A.C.® Dressing should collapse into the wound
- Check the device, the panel will indicate the pressure reached

Note: Please refer to the current V.A.C.® Therapy Clinical Guidelines for further detailed instructions, safety information, dressing application, and V.A.C.® Therapy device settings. SensaT.R.A.C.® dressings can be used with InfoV.A.C.®, ActiV.A.C.®, V.A.C. ATS® and V.A.C.Freedom® therapy units. However each therapy unit will require its specialised canister.

For clinical assistance or to place orders please contact

KCI Medical National Call Centre: 1300 KCI VAC (1300 524 822)

www.kci-medical.com.au
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Dressing Techniques

Techniques for Bridging, “Y” Connecting & SensaT.R.A.C.® Pad Placement (away from the wound)

Bridging multiple wounds close together

Multiple wounds with a Y connector

SensaT.R.A.C.® Pad Placement (away from bony prominences or weight bearing surfaces)

Note: To protect fragile, excoriated or intact skin a thin layered dressing - such as V.A.C.® Drape, hydrocolloid, or vapour permeable adhesive dressing may be used.

Mushroom Technique

Frame the wound with a protective thin layered dressing e.g. V.A.C.® Drape or Hydrocolloid

Fill wound with foam

An additional piece of foam is placed over the wound foam to support the SensaT.R.A.C.® Pad

Place drape over the foam, cut hole in drape & centre the SensaT.R.A.C.® Pad over the foam securing the tubing

Tunneling & Undermining Wound Beds

First dressing ensure the V.A.C.® WhiteFoam™ is gently placed but in contact with the wound surface

At each subsequent dressing change pull the V.A.C.® WhiteFoam™ back 1 - 2 cm to encourage collapse of the tunnel

Note: Do not place foam in blind or unexplored tunnels

For specific dressing instruction, please contact your local KCI Clinical Support Educator on 1300 KCI VAC (1300 524 822)

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