Incision management and its risks

Smith & Nephew can support you with an innovative incision management solution. Most surgical wounds are categorized as acute wounds and they heal without complication within expected time frames. However, due to more obesity, older patients, and more comorbidities, surgical caseloads are becoming progressively more complex and high risk.

What risk do your patients face?

More patients are considered to be high-risk for surgery and recovery because of the following co-morbidities:
- obesity
- diabetes
- smoker
- hypertension
- immune deficiency

Complex surgical procedures and compromised patients increase the risk of incision-related complications such as:
- Surgical Site Infection (SSI)
- seroma
- hematoma
- dehiscence
Consequences of wound complications

Economic consequences
Post-procedural complications including Surgical Site Infection (SSI) and dehiscence are known to add additional costs to the patient episode of care.

- Extended length of hospital stay
- Readmission
- Surgical re-intervention
- Post-procedural complications including SSI are estimated to cost an additional $25,000 on average and up to $200,000 in some cases and can increase length of stay by 7-12 days

Impact on patient wellbeing
Post-procedural complications including SSI or dehiscence can have significant impact on patient wellbeing.

- Pain and distress
- Reduced mobility
- Sleep disturbance and fatigue
- Embarrassment and anxiety
- Odor
- Delay in returning home/work, loss of income
- An SSI is estimated to result in a financial burden to the patient that, at $76,709, is 8x higher than total health system costs
Improving outcomes with incisional Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT)

Supporting you in protecting your patients against post-operative infection and complications is Smith & Nephew’s priority. Let your patients benefit from an innovative incision management tool.

The Mechanism of Action of NPWT can help improve the speed, strength and quality of incisional wound closure, thus minimizing the failures of healing that may lead to infection and/or dehiscence.²³

- Protects the incision from external contamination⁹
- Helps improve perfusion¹⁰
- Holds incision edges together and helps reduce tensile forces across the incision⁹
- Reduces seroma and hematoma fluid collections⁵⁶
- Helps reduce edema¹⁰
The PICO® Single Use NPWT design

PICO is a novel, canister-free, single use system offering a portable, accessible and affordable Negative Pressure Wound Therapy for suitable wounds with low to moderate exudate.

1. Comfort
Top film with high moisture vapor transmission rate to transpire exudate so patients don’t have to wear bulky dressings. This also means no canister is necessary.

2. Confidence
Absorbent layer eliminates the need for a canister, improving patient satisfaction.

3. Innovative airlock layer
Maintains -80mmHg negative pressure across entire area of the exudate management system. Holds its structure under pressure so device remains functional, even when dressing is compressed.

4. Gentle
Silicone adhesive wound contact layer is gentle on the patients skin and helps to minimize trauma and pain to the periwound area on dressing removal.

5. Patient friendly indicators
Visual alarms to ensure continuous NPWT therapy.

6. Mobility
Operates on 2 AA batteries providing up to 7 days of NPWT.

7. Simplicity
Single button operation to power on and 1 hour auto on feature to facilitate patient compliance.

PICO is indicated for:
- Chronic wounds
- Acute wounds
- Traumatic wounds
- Subacute and dehisced wounds
- Partial-thickness burns
- Ulcers (such as diabetic or pressure)
- Flaps and grafts
- Closed surgical incisions
PICO offers an innovative NPWT approach to reducing the risks of incision-related complications

Applying PICO on your high-risk patients in the Operating Room ensures patients receive immediate therapy. PICO is designed to be quick and simple to apply.

**After surgery**
- PICO may help prevent complications in high risk patients.
- PICO is portable and, therefore, may help earlier discharge.
- The silicone wound contact layer combined with the active therapy provided to your patient may deliver a better scar outcome.
- May help reduce unplanned readmissions as a result of wound complications.

**Post-discharge**
PICO gives you additional control over what happens to your patient's incision after the procedure, so that you can be confident that post-operative complications are less likely to impact your patient's outcome.

PICO may help reduce the length of hospitalization, may help accelerate discharge and may result in cost-savings.

The PICO System has been studied on closed surgical incisions including:
- C-section
- Colorectal Surgery
- Hysterectomy
- Calcaneus Fracture
- Total Hip Replacement
- Mastectomy
- Total Knee Replacement
- Breast Reduction
- Sternotomy

**Example**

Leaky incisions caused by edema post-surgery can extend patient hospital stay.

PICO reduces edema compared to standard surgical dressings.

Length of stay is an important component of resource consumption in a hospital.

PICO may help prevent extended hospital stay due to post-surgery edema.

Example

In a recent study, following the implementation of a PICO protocol in women with a BMI>35 undergoing C-section procedures, there were no readmissions and only one infection in the highest risk group of patients.
To apply the PICO° System

1. Partially remove backing from dressing over wound bed. The port should be uppermost from the wound (if possible) and not over the incision or wound.

2. Remove remaining backing and smooth dressing edges to secure to periwound skin.

3. Connect dressing port tubing to pump and twist to secure the connection.

4. Push the orange button to start delivery of NPWT.

5. Seal dressing with the supplied adhesive retention strips around all edges.

6. Change dressing as needed within the 7 day period (pump life) using the additional dressing provided.
# Ordering information

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For detailed product information, including indications for use, contraindications, effects, precautions, and warnings, please consult the product's Instructions for Use (IFU) prior to use.

# References

24. For North, S.P. V. 1-800-323-4428.
25. For South, S.P. T. 1-800-323-4428.