

Prescribing Clinical Network

Policy Statement	Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT) (Please Note: this statement is NOT in relation to disposable NPWT which will be considered by a future prescribing clinical network)
Policy No:	PCN 215 -2016 (to replace PCN 85-2014) Updated March 2018
Date of Issue	September 2016
Review Date:	September 2019 (Unless new published evidence becomes available before this date OR there is new published national guidance e.g. NICE)

Recommendations:

The PCN recommends that conventional NPWT will continue to be considered RED on the traffic light system until guidelines for use have been developed for the following cohorts of patients:

- Patients with dehisced surgical wounds
- Patients with diabetic foot wounds, following the locally agreed Diabetic Foor pathway
- Vascular graft wounds

Guidelines for use will be developed by the wound management formulary group for agreement at PCN and subsequent ratification with local commissioners

Key Considerations

- Clinical evidence to support the use of NPWT is sufficient for these three patient cohorts
- NICE Guideline (NG19) Diabetic Foot Problems: Prevention & Management (August 2015) https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng19/resources/diabetic-foot-problems-prevention-and-management-1837279828933
- NICE interventional Procedure Guidelines (IPG467) Negative Wound Pressure Therapy for the open abdomen (November 2013) https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ipg467/resources/negative-pressure-wound-therapy-for-the-open-abdomen-1899869875981765
- Acute trusts and community providers feel that it is a clinically beneficial treatment and can reduce length of stay and excess bed-days.

Date taken to Prescribing Clinical Network	September 2016
Agreed by PCN members	26 th March 2018