

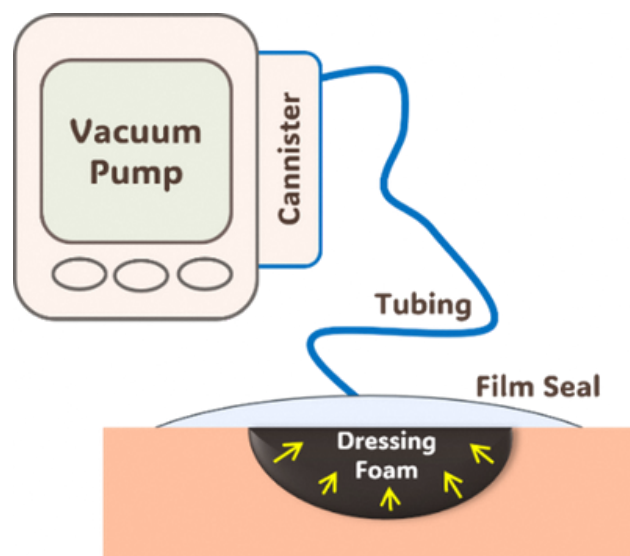
# Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

## What is negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT)?

NPWT is a type of advanced wound management system that aims to promote wound healing. It uses a sealed dressing and a portable vacuum pump to create a prescribed negative pressure (suction) at the wound site. A medical professional will advise if a wound is suitable to be on NPWT.

## What is the purpose of NPWT?

- Improves blood flow to the wound bed
- Removes excess fluid from the wound bed
- Stimulates growth of new tissue



## NPWT at home setting

You will utilise one of the machines shown below. Appointments for dressing change will be scheduled before your discharge. An external nurse will visit you at your home and conduct the wound dressing change.



- Takes about 6 hours for a full charge.
- A fully charged machine can last for about 6 to 8 hours.



- Takes about 4 hours for a full charge.
- A fully-charged machine can last for about 10-16 hours.

### Note:

- For your appointments at Woodlands Health, please bring along the foam dressing, canister, any dressing product provided to you upon discharge.
- We advise fully charging the machine before leaving home and bringing the charger along for emergencies.

## Advice for care at home

### Caring for your wound:

- When showering, cover the wound area using a plastic bag and tape to prevent water from entering
- Do not remove the NPWT dressing on your own
- Be mindful not to trip over or pull the tubing from the dressing and wire from the machine. Coil the tubing and wire if possible

### Caring for the machine:

- Ensure that the machine remains dry, especially while showering; cover it with a plastic bag and place it away from the shower area
- Do not disconnect the tubing of the machine when changing clothes or showering
- Keep the machine upright and avoid tilting the machine for a prolonged period
- Charge the machine whenever possible or overnight for at least 6 hours
- For enquiries on the machine, call the hotline provided by the machine company

### Please see a doctor if you experience any of the following:

- Increased redness around the wound
- Increased swelling around the wound
- Increased pain of the wound
- Fever of 38°C and above
- Increase bleeding from your wound (inside the tubing and the canister)

Contributed by Nursing

This brochure is produced for educational purposes and should not be used as a substitute for medical diagnosis or treatment. Please seek the advice of a qualified healthcare provider before starting any treatment or if you have any questions related to your health or medical condition.

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