# Exudate Management with NPWT in Mesh Suppuration after Abdominal Wall Reconstruction with Mesh Implantation

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# Causes that slow down the wound healing

- The exudate in non-healing wounds decreases or even prevents cell proliferation,
- Interferes with growth factor availability,
- Generally contains elevated levels of inflammatory mediators and activated metalloproteinases.

# Positive effects of NPWT on wound healing in mesh suppuration

- Removing of exudate with bacterial and toxic agents
- Cleansing of mesh surface
- Prevention of superinfection
- Promotion of granulation tissue formation

- Abdominal wall reconstruction with onlay mesh implantation
- Signs of suppuration or fistulisation
- Wide exploration of the wound
- Necrosectomy, cleansing of the wound
- Bacterial stain examination



- Saving the implanted mesh
- Insertion the polyurethane sponge in the wound bed
- Applicate the complete NPWT set
- Start -120 mmHg continuous negative pressure
- Control the level and the quality of the exudate





- Change the NPWT to intermittant suction if
  - The level of the exsudate decreased
  - The exudate is so called "clean"
  - The granulation of the wound bed is sufficient
  - The implanted mesh is beginning to be covered by granulation tissue
- After 1-2 cycles of intermittent NPWT



- Close the wound
- Possible techniques for wound closure
  - Primary closure
  - Primary closure with "iNPWT"
  - Primary closure with redon drainage
  - Left the wound open





#### **Patients**

- 21 patients
- 8 male, 13 female
- All patients had abdominal wall reconstruction with onlay mesh implantation
- Comorbidities
  - DM, obesity, hypertension, hepatic cirrhosis,

#### Results

- 21 patients
- Mesh salvage rate was 81% (17 patients)
- Partial mesh salvage rate was 9.5% (2 patients)
- Primary wound closure rate was 76.2% (16 patients)
- Secondary wound closure rate was 23.8% (5 patients)

#### **Conclusions**

• The NPWT was successful in evacuating exudatum from septic wounds.

•NPWT has good effect on the mesh salvage in cases of mesh suppuration

