

Vac Dressings

Vac dressings (or negative pressure dressings) is a type of dressing that is very effective and has several uses. The most common uses is on an open wound, to help the wound to heal/close, and on an incision that has been closed (incisional vac dressing). This is accomplished by applying suction to the wound (which is painless). The suction (or negative pressure) increases the blood flow to the wound or incision.

The dressing is typically changed every two to three days and is comprised of a foam sponge, drape and tubing that adheres to the drape which is then connected to a pump that applies suction to the system. Typically, the drape is adhered to the skin with adhesive (sticky) that is part of the drape. Alternatively, when the skin will not tolerate repeated adhesive applied to it, we can achieve a seal using saran wrap and jelly (Jelly vac), a technique that we pioneered here at OrthoIndy.