

















Client Health Education Resource - Yukon

Negative Pressure Wound Therapy PICO 7 or PICO 14 Home Care/Community Health Services



After Hours Contact Information:				
Name of Health Unit/Office:	Address:	Phone Number:		
Home Care/Community Health Centre Information To be completed by the nurse				
In the unlikely event that there is a problem with the dressing (see page 4), the nurse will provide you with a small bag of troubleshooting supplies. The nurse will teach you how to use your supplies and discuss which Dressing Plan you should follow if the problem cannot be fixed (see page 5).				
You will receive a phone call from the Home Care/Community Health Centre office to plan your clinic or home visits for your dressing changes. If you are discharged from hospital and you do not receive a phone call within 2 days, call your Home Care/Community Health Centre (see back page). Your next dressing change is due on:				
☐ Your Family Physician/Nurse Practitioner (NP): please book an appointment. Date				
Your dressing care will be directed by (nurse to check √): ☐ Your surgeon: please book a follow-up appointment. Date:				
Magnet Warning: The PICO 7/PICO 14 contains a magnet which can interfere with other medical devices, for example; pacemaker or insulin pump, causing that device to stop working. The PICO 7/PICO 14 must be kept at least 4" (10cm) away from other medical devices. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, speak with your surgeon or nurse.				
ne Smith & Nephew Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT) PICO 7 and PICO 14 systems are made of a dressing and a disposable negative pressure (vacuum) device. The PICO 7 or PICO 14 is being sed to help heal your Wound Incision Skin Graft.				

For <u>urgent</u> Nursing or Medical help, see back page for directions.

Please bring this information with you for all appointments or if you visit the Emergency Department.

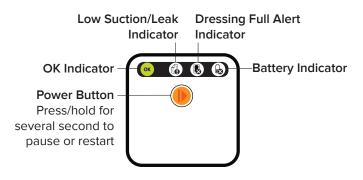
Table of Content

Frequently Asked Questions	2
Troubleshooting	4
Nothing is Working	5
When To Seek Help	
Home Care, Community Health Centres & Hospitals Contact Numbersb	

Frequently Asked Questions

How does it work?

- The PICO 7/PICO 14's suction heals wounds by pulling the wound closed, for incisions by holding the edges together and for grafts, holding the skin graft in place. It is important that the suction be ON for 24 hours a day.
- The suction pulls the drainage into the dressing.
- The dressing must stick firmly onto the skin to stop air from going under the dressing causing an air leak and a loss of suction.



- The device will 'alert' you when there is a problem with the dressing or device.
- The PICO 7/PICO 14 runs on batteries for up to 7 days for the PICO 7 or up to 14 days for the PICO 14; then shut themselves off. The device uses 2AA batteries which should last the 7 or 14 days but you should have extra batteries on hand as a back-up.
- There is a belt clip for carrying the device

What do I need to do while I have this dressing on?

- While you are awake; check every 2 hours that the:
 - Dressing is firm to touch.
 - o Tubing is not kinked.
 - o **GREEN** OK indicator button is flashing continuously.
 - o Dressing Full indicator is not flashing.
 - o Battery indicator is not flashing.
- Before going to sleep, do one more check.

Does it hurt?

- It is normal to feel a slight pulling or tugging due to the suction. If this hurts, take pain medication, if prescribed, or talk to your nurse regarding pain medication.
- You may feel some discomfort when the dressing is removed.



What needs to be planned for my dressing changes?

With your Home Care/Community Health Nurse, plan:

- The days and times for your dressing change.
- For wounds which have a <u>black foam dressing</u> only: when to turn the device OFF before your dressing change, usually 30 minutes.
- When to take pain medication, if needed; usually 30 to 45 minutes before the dressing change.

V	Write the plan here:						
l							

Can I have a shower/tub bath?

You may shower (no tub baths) with the dressing in place. The device is battery-run therefore it must be disconnected from the dressing prior to the shower.

- How to set up for your shower:
 - o Gather 2 small gauze sponges and tape to use to protect the open ends of the tubings if you have been instructed by the nurse to do this.
 - Wash your hands.
 - Press/hold the device's Power button for several seconds to turn the machine device OFF.
 - o Disconnect the dressing tubing from the machine device tubing.
 - o If instructed, use the gauze sponges cover the end of both tubings; tape into place. If the ends are not covered, ensure the dressing tubing end is hanging in downward position during the shower.
- Your shower time should be kept short and try to keep the shower spray off the dressing as much as possible.
- After your shower, gently pat dry the dressing and the surrounding area; do not rub as rubbing may lift the edges of the dressing.

Trouble-Shooting					
Alerts	What to Do				
 Therapy Complete: After 7 or 14 days the device automatically turns off. All indicator lights are OFF. 	Call your Home Care/Community Health Centre and let them know.				
Low Battery: The GREEN OK and ORANGE battery indicators are flashing; this means there is 24 hours or less of battery life remaining.	 To change the batteries: Press/hold the ORANGE Power button to stop the therapy. Remove battery cover (back of the device) and batteries. Put in 2 new AA batteries and replace battery cover. Press/hold the ORANGE Power button to restart therapy. 				
Low Suction: The GREEN OK and ORANGE air leak indicators are flashing. This indicates that the device is trying to gain a dressing seal.	Wait 65 seconds. The pump may intermittently 'buzz' as it establishes the negative pressure, as long as the dressing is firm to touch and the GREEN light is flashing, the system working correctly.				
Air Leak: • The ORANGE leak indicator is flashing, therapy is not being applied. Note: Once the device is turned back on, it may take up to 65 seconds to re-establish the therapy.	 To correct an air leak: Ensure tubing connection is tight. Find your troubleshooting supplies. Smooth out the dressing especially where the white dressing meets the border to remove any creases. Check for small lifts on the edge of the dressing and add fixation strips as needed. Press/hold the ORANGE button to restart therapy. If air leak is resolved, the GREEN light will stay on. If the air leak is not resolved, then ORANGE light will come back on; try again to seal the air leak. If unable to fix the leak, go to back page "Nothing is Working" 				
 Dressing 'Full': Orange dressing full indicator is flashing meaning the dressing needs to be changed. 	 Call your Home Care/Community Health Centre and let them know that the device is saying that the dressing is full. Go to the back page to see how you will need to manage the dressing. 				
Standby: • All the indicator lights are OFF but the therapy has not completed it 7-day course.	 Press the ORANGE Power button to restart the therapy. It takes 65 seconds for the device to apply the NPWT. Check the batteries. 				
Device Failure: • All indicator lights are solidly ON (no flashing).	 Try pressing the ORANGE Power button to restart device. Try new batteries. If therapy cannot be restarted, go to the back page "Nothing is Working" 				

Call your Home Care/Community Health Centre and follow troubleshooting tips provided or call Smith & Nephew customer service: 877 977-1772 (8:00am-4:00pm EST)

Nothing is Working...

- 1. Let the Home Care/Community Health Centre office know as soon as possible that there is a problem with the dressing and/or device which you cannot fix (if it is after office hours, leave a message).
- 2. You will need to do the following to manage the dressing:
 - Ensure the device is OFF; press/hold the Power button for 2 seconds.
 - This dressing will hold the drainage; if leaking, cover with a bandage or towel.

When to Seek Help

Call the nurse and/or your surgeon/Family Physician/Nurse Practitioner for any of the following:

- New or increasing pain around the wound, incision or graft site.
- A temperature of 38°C or higher.
- Feeling unwell (nausea/vomiting, lightheaded, dizzy or weak).
- Swelling, warmth, tenderness redness, increase itchiness around the dressing site.
- Bad/foul smell coming from the dressing or canister.
- Need to change the canister more often than usual.
- Drainage in the tube or canister is thicker, has changed colour or there is increased drainage.

Turn OFF the device and call Emergency Services (911) immediately if you see the following in the dressing, tubing, or canister:

- Blood (red); unexpected or new bleeding.
- Bile (green) for abdominal wounds only.
- Stool (brownish) for abdominal wounds only.

For clients living with spinal cord injury and having signs/symptoms of Autonomic Dysreflexia **turn OFF the device and call Emergency Services (911).**

Home Care, Community Health Centres & Hospital **Contact Numbers**

Home Care Programs

Dawson City Home Care Program Tel: 867-993-5029 Fax: 867-993-5849

Haines Junction Home Care Program Tel: 867-634-7510 Fax: 867-634-7529

Watson Lake Home Care Program Tel: 867-536-5256 Fax: 867-536-5258

Whitehorse Home Care Program Tel: 867-667-5774 Fax: 867-393-6328

Community Health Centres

Beaver Creek Health Centre Mile 1202 Alaska Highway Beaver Creek, Yukon, Y0B 1A0 Tel: 867-862-4444 Fax: 867-862-7909

Carcross Health Centre 952 Tagish Avenue Carcross, Yukon, Y0B 1B0 Tel: 867-821-4444 Fax: 867-821-3909

Carmacks, Yukon, Y0B 1C0 Tel: 867-863-4444 Fax: 867-863-6612

131 Bates Street

Tel: 867-634-4444

Fax: 867-634-2733

Tel: 867-537-4444

Fax: 867-537-3611

106 River Drive,

Carmacks Health Centre

Haines Junction Health Centre

Pelly Crossing Health Centre Kilometre 464 North Klondike HWY

Pelly Crossing, Yukon, Y0B 1P0

Haines Junction, Yukon, YOB 1LO

Destruction Bay Health Centre Mile 1083 Alaska Highway Destruction Bay, Yukon, Y0B 1H0

Tel: 867-841-4444 Fax: 867-841-5274

Mayo Health Centre 21 Centre Street, Mayo, Yukon, Y0B 1M0 Tel: 867-996-4444 Fax: 867-996-2018

14 Kulan Street. Ross River, Yukon, Y0B 1S0 Tel: 867-969-4444 Fax: 867-969-2014

Ross River Health Centre

Faro Health Centre 111 Bell Avenue Faro, Yukon, Y0B 1K0 Tel: 867-994-4444

Fax: 867-994-3457

Old Crow Health Centre Building 200 Old Crow, Yukon, Y0B 1N0 Tel: 867-966-4444 Fax: 867-966-3614

Teslin Health Centre 27 Johnstone Avenue, Teslin, Yukon, YOA 1B0

Tel: 867-390-4444 Fax: 867-390-2217

Hospitals

Dawson City, Watson Lake, and Whitehorse - Use Home Care Program or Hospital

Dawson City Community Hospital 501 6th Avenue Dawson City, Yukon, Y0B 1G0

Tel: 867-993-4444

Watson Lake Community Hospital 817 Ravenhill Drive Watson Lake, Yukon, YOA 1CO

Tel: 867-536-4444

Whitehorse General Hospital 5 Hospital Road Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 3H7 Tel: 867-393-8700

Created by: British Columbia Provincial Nursing Skin & Wound Committee

For more copies, go online at vch.eduhealth.ca or email phem@vch.ca and quote Catalogue No. FO.160.P532 © Vancouver Coastal Health, October 2025

Making better decisions together with patients and families