

Client Health Education Resource

Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

Prevena 125

Patient Self-Care



The 3M KCI Prevena 125 system is made up of a foam dressing and a **disposable** Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT) machine. Your Surgeon is using it to help heal your incision.

Your Follow-up Appointment will be with:

Your Surgeon The Clinic Your Family Physician/Nurse Practitioner (NP)

Your appointment is booked for _____ / _____.

Date Time

If not booked, please book appointment for _____ days from your surgery date.

Your Surgeon/The Clinic Contact Information:

In the unlikely event that there is a problem with the dressing (see page 3), the Nurse will send you home with a small bag of trouble-shooting supplies. The Nurse will teach you how to use your supplies and review with you what to do if the problem cannot be fixed (see back page).

For urgent 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.**

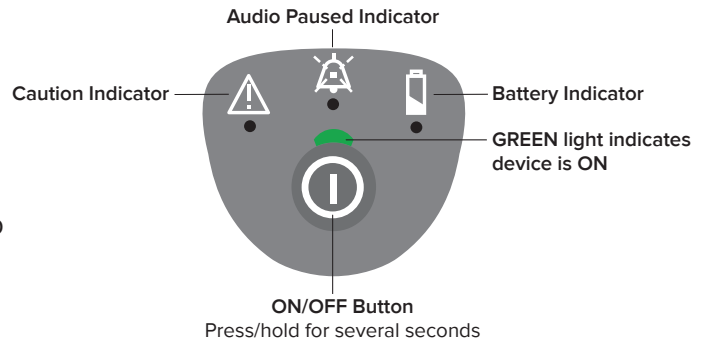
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Frequently Asked Questions

How does it work?

- The Prevena's suction heals incisions by holding the edges together. **It is very important that the suction be ON for 24 hours a day.**
- The suction pulls drainage from the incision into the canister. The drainage amount should be small to none.
- The dressing must stick firmly to the skin to stop air from going under the dressing, causing an air leak and loss of suction.
- The machine will 'beep/light up' to alert you when there is a problem (see page 3).
- The purple dressing has a silver layer which touches the skin. This helps to decrease the risk of infection.
- Prevena runs on batteries for up to 8 days and then shuts itself off. It has 3 AA batteries which should last the 8 days, but you should **have extra batteries on hand** as a back-up.
- The machine can be disposed of through an electronic recycling program.
- The machine comes with a carrying case.



How long do I have this dressing on?

The Prevena dressing may stay on for up to 7 days. Your Surgeon will decide when it will be removed or changed.

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.
 - The tubing is not kinked.
 - Canister is less than $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
 - Light over the ON/OFF button is showing **GREEN**
 - Battery has enough charge left in it.
- **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 your pain medication as ordered by your Surgeon. If your pain medication does not help, call your Surgeon.
- You may feel some discomfort when the dressing is removed.

Can I have a shower/tub bath?

No. Showering should wait until the dressing is removed to avoid disturbing the dressing. It is okay to have a sponge bath.







My Surgeon told me to remove the dressing once the therapy is done, how to I do this?

Find one corner of the dressing and gently lift the edge. Then go around the whole dressing, lifting all of the edges. Remove the dressing. As your Surgeon ordered, cover the incision with the dressing supplied or leave it open to the air. Discard the dressing and canister in the garbage. Recycle the machine, if possible.

Trouble-Shooting

NOTE: Beep alerts can be muted for up to 60 minutes by pressing the ON/OFF button once. The **YELLOW** Audio Paused Light will show until you fix the problem or have pressed and held the ON/OFF button to turn the machine back 'ON'.

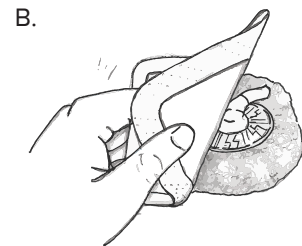
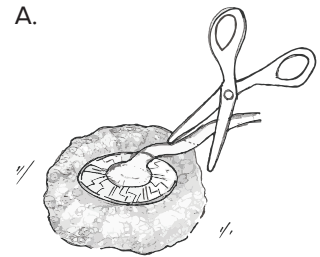


Alerts	What to Do
<p>Therapy Complete Alert: Therapy is finished at 8 days or 192 hours. All 3 YELLOW lights will come on and you will hear a 15 second beep; the machine will automatically stop working.</p>	<p>Check for the 3 YELLOW lights. Contact your Surgeon/Clinic or you Family Physician/NP for an appointment if one is not already booked.</p> 
<p>Battery Charge Alert:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low – a slow beep and a solid YELLOW light; change batteries within 6 hours. • Critical – a rapid beep which gets louder and one solid YELLOW light; change batteries immediately. 	<p>Change the 3 AA batteries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press and hold the ON/OFF button for several seconds to turn OFF the machine. • Slide open the battery cover, insert new batteries; close battery cover. • Press/hold the ON/OFF button for several seconds; this will re-start the machine.
<p>Canister Full Alert: 2 beeps and one solid YELLOW light.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press and hold the ON/OFF button for several seconds to turn OFF the machine. • Find your trouble-shooting supplies and see back page to manage the dressing. • Call your Surgeon/Clinic to let them know that the canister is full.
<p>Air Leak Alert: 1 beep with one solid YELLOW light.</p> 	<p>Ensure tubing connection is tight. Ensure the canister is properly installed.</p> <p>Fix the air leak:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find your troubleshooting supplies. • Ensure the machine is ON. • Run your fingers along the edges of the dressing to find areas which seem loose or have lifted. Fix the leaks by covering them with small strips of the transparent film dressing. • When the leak is fixed, both the beep and YELLOW light will turn off. • If the air leak is not resolved, the YELLOW light will come back on and the beep will start again; try again to re-seal the air leak. • If unable to fix the dressing, see back page "Nothing is Working".
<p>Machine Failure Alert (before the 8th day of therapy is done):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One beep repeating and increasing in volume; 2 solid YELLOW lights then all lights will be OFF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try turning the machine back ON. • Try replacing the 3 AA batteries. • If unable to restart the machine, see back page "Nothing is Working".

Call 3M/KCI Customer Service 1-800-668-5403; there is someone always available to help.

Nothing is Working...

1. **Let your Surgeon or your Physician/NP know as soon as possible that there is a problem with the dressing and/or machine (if after office hours or on the weekend, leave a message).**
2. You will need to do the following to manage the dressing:
 - Find your trouble-shooting supplies (scissors, dressing and tape).
 - Ensure the machine is OFF; press/hold the ON/OFF button for 2 seconds.
 - Wash your hands.
 - Cut the tubing close to the purple dressing (see image A).
 - Cover the cut tube with the dressing that has been supplied; tape in place as needed (see image B).
 - This dressing will catch the drainage, change it as often as needed to keep it dry.
 - Throw the canister in the garbage.
 - Recycle the machine (electronic recycling) where possible.



When to Seek Help

Call your Surgeon or Family Physician/Nurse Practitioner if you have any of the following:

- New or increasing pain.
- A fever of 38°C or higher.
- Feeling unwell (nausea/vomiting, lightheaded, dizzy or weak).
- Swelling, redness, warmth, tenderness, increasing itchiness at your dressing site.
- Bad/foul smell coming from the dressing or canister.
- Drainage in the tube or canister is thicker, has changed colour or there is an increase in drainage.

Turn OFF the machine 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 machine and call Emergency Services (911).**

Created by: British Columbia Provincial Nursing Skin & Wound Committee



Making better
decisions together
with patients
and families

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