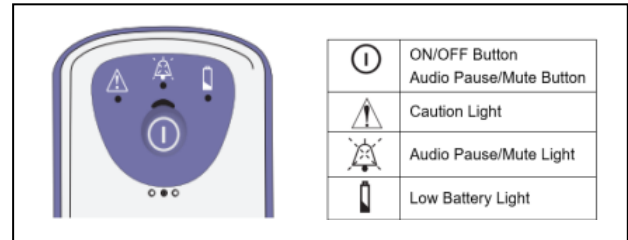




## Frequently Asked Questions

### How does it work?

- The Prevena 125's vacuum suction helps heal surgical incisions by holding the edges of the incision 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 very small to no drainage.
- 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 device will 'beep/light up' to alert you when there is a problem (see page 3).
- Prevena 125 runs on 3 AA non-rechargeable batteries for up to a full 7 days and then shuts itself off.
- Make sure you have 3 AA batteries on hand in case you need to change the device's batteries.
- The device can be disposed of through your neighbourhood electronic recycling program, if available.
- The device comes with a carrying case.



### How long do I have this dressing on?

The Prevena 125 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.
  - Tubing is not kinked.
  - Canister is less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.
  - ON/OFF button is showing **GREEN**.
  - Battery has enough charge left in it. If not, then change the batteries.
- **Before going to sleep,** do another check.



### Does it hurt?



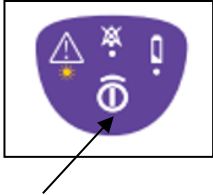
- It is normal to feel a slight pulling or tugging due to the suction. If this hurts, take your pain medication as ordered by your surgeon. If your pain medication does not help, call your surgeon.
- You may feel some discomfort when the dressing is removed.




### Can I have a shower/tub bath?

- Yes, you may shower but tub bathing should wait until after NPWT has been discontinued.
- When showering,
  - Ensure the device, which runs on batteries, is outside of the shower spray area, (e.g. put it just outside the shower, hang it on the soap/shampoo holder).
  - Try to keep the shower spray off the dressing as much as possible. Should soap or shampoo come in contact with the dressing, lightly rinse it off with an indirect spray of the shower.

**My surgeon told me to remove the dressing once the therapy is completed; how do I do this?**

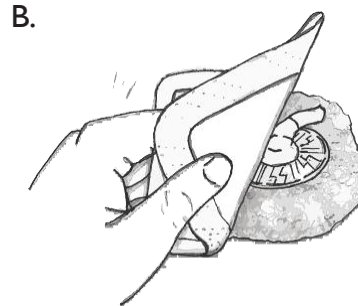
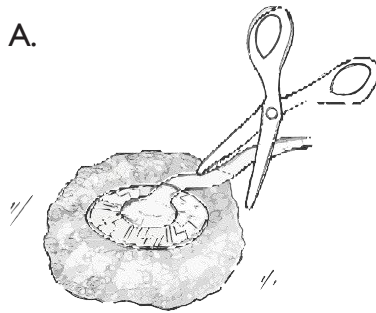
- Find 1 corner of the dressing and gently lift the edge. Then go around the whole dressing, lifting all of the edges. Remove the dressing.
- As your surgeon has ordered, cover the incision with the dressing supplied or leave the incision open to the air. Discard the dressing and canister in the garbage. Recycle the device, if possible.

Troubleshooting	
<p><b>Prevena 125</b> is ON and working correctly when the only the <b>green</b> light is showing.</p> 	
<p><b>Alarms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is a situation with the device or the dressing, the device will alarm by showing yellow lights and audible beeps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ The device will turn off the yellow lights when the situation is fixed.</li> <li>◦ The audible beep alerts can be temporarily muted by pressing the ON/OFF button once; the beeping will reoccur until the situation is fixed.</li> <li>◦ The Audio Paused Light will show yellow until the situation is fixed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Alarms	What to Do
<p><b>Therapy finished</b></p> <p>Therapy is complete at 8 days or 192 hours. All 3 <b>yellow</b> lights will come on and a 15 second beep will be heard; the device stops working.</p> 	<p>Watch for the yellow lights to come on. Once the device has shut itself off, follow your surgeon’s instructions regarding the dressing. If you are to remove the dressing, see the top of this page for the how-to-do steps.</p>
<p><b>Air leak</b></p> <p>1 beep with one solid <b>yellow</b> light.</p>  <p>There are three little lights below the On/Off button which indicated how well the edges of the dressing are sealed:</p> <p>1 light = Best 2 lights = Good 3 lights = Marginal</p>	<p>Ensure tubing connection is tight.</p> <p>Ensure canister is properly installed.</p> <p>Fix the air leak:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the device is ON.</li> <li>• Press along the edges of the dressing to find areas which seem loose or have lifted. Fix the leaks by covering them with the Prevena patch strips or small strips of transparent film dressing.</li> <li>• When the leak is resolved the audible leak alert will stop and visual alert will turn off.</li> </ul> <p>If the air leak is not resolved then the <b>yellow</b> light will come back on and the beep will start; try again to re-seal the air leak.</p> <p>If unable to seal the leak, see page 5 “Nothing is Working”</p>

Alarms	What to Do
<p><b>Low battery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low – a slow beep and a solid <b>yellow</b> light; change batteries within 6 hours.</li> <li>• Critical – a rapid beep increasing in volume and one solid <b>yellow</b> light; change batteries immediately.</li> </ul> 	<p>Change the 3 AA batteries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Press/hold the ON/OFF button for 5 seconds to turn OFF the device and stop its life cycle counter.</li> <li>• Slide open the battery cover located on the back of the machine. Insert new batteries, close battery cover.</li> </ul> <p>Press/hold the ON/OFF button for 2 seconds; this will re-start the device and its life cycle counter.</p>
<p><b>Canister full</b></p> <p>2 beeps and one solid <b>yellow</b> light.</p> 	<p>If canister is not full, check the tubing for kinks</p> <p>If canister is full, change the canister:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gather a new canister and an alcohol swab.</li> <li>• Wash hands.</li> <li>• Turn the therapy OFF; hold the ON/OFF button for 5 seconds.</li> <li>• Remove the full canister from the device by pressing on the side tabs on the canister.</li> <li>• Cleanse tubing connector site with the alcohol swab for 30+ seconds. Allow to dry for 30+ seconds.</li> <li>• Disconnect canister tubing from dressing tubing.</li> <li>• Connect dressing tubing to new canister tubing.</li> <li>• Install new canister into the device. A distinct click will be heard when the canister is in place.</li> <li>• Turn therapy ON; hold ON/OFF button for 2 seconds.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Device failure</b></p> <p>One beep, repeating and increasing in volume; 2 solid <b>yellow</b> lights come on then all of the lights go OFF.</p> 	<p>Try to fix the issue by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turning the device back ON.</li> <li>• Replacing the 3 AA batteries.</li> </ul> <p>If unable to restart device, see page 5 “Nothing is Working”.</p>
<p><b>3M/KCI Customer Service 1-800-668-5403</b></p>	

## Nothing is Working...

1. Let your surgeon/Family Physician/NP know as soon as possible that there is a problem with the dressing and/or device (if after office hours or on the weekend, leave a message).
2. You will need to do the following to manage the dressing:
  - o Find your troubleshooting supplies (scissors, dressing and tape).
  - o Ensure the device is OFF; press/hold the ON/OFF button for 3 seconds.
  - o Wash your hands.
  - o Cut the tubing close to the purple dressing (see image A).
  - o Cover the cut tube with the dressing that has been supplied; tape in place as needed (see image B).
  - o This dressing will catch the drainage, change it as often as needed to keep it dry.
  - o Throw the canister in the garbage.
  - o Recycle the device (electronic recycling) where possible.



## When to Seek Help

Call your surgeon/Family Physician/NP 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 device and immediately call Emergency Services (911) if you see the following in the dressing, tube, 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).**