

# Management of a surgical wound dehiscence using Solventum™ V.A.C.® Therapy with Solventum™ Dermatac™ Drape

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## Patient

The patient was a 75-year-old female with a history of diabetes, gastric reflux disease, diverticular disease of the colon, and hyperlipidemia who had a recent hospitalization for diverticulitis. The wound had been previously managed at the bedside with hand-assisted incision draining and with dressings of betadine gauze.

## Diagnosis

She presented to the hospital with a surgical wound dehiscence of the abdomen measuring 5.5 x 3.5 x 1.5 cm<sup>3</sup> (Figure 1). Prior to the removal of the gauze dressings, oral pain medications and topical lidocaine had to be administered.

## Course of treatment/Application of V.A.C.® Therapy with Dermatac Drape:

After the initial debridement, V.A.C.® Therapy (-50 mmHg) was applied using a foam dressing and Dermatac Drape, which is an innovative film composed of silicone and acrylic. Application with the innovative drape was easier with the ability to gently lift and reposition for the sensitive skin around the wound. During application, a seal was noted with a bridge to a larger area of the foam. The patient tolerated the Dermatac Drape being applied and gently smoothed with no pain reported after application of the negative pressure (Figure 2). Dressings were changed 3 times a week. At the first dressing change, no pain medications were needed (Figure 3). After 8 days of therapy, V.A.C.® Therapy was discontinued (Figure 4). No pain medications were needed at dressing removal.

## Discharge and follow-up

Patient was discharged with a silver dressing with a foam border. The clinician noted that the patient was very scared and reported pain upon removal of the initial gauze dressings. However, during the removal of the Dermatac Drape at the V.A.C.® Therapy dressing change, there was no pain.

Patient data and photos courtesy of Mary Anne Obst, RN, BSN, CWON, CCRN, Regions Hospital, Saint Paul, MN  
As with any case study, the results and outcomes should not be interpreted as a guarantee or warranty of similar results. Individual results may vary depending on the patient's circumstances and condition.

**Note:** Specific indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions and safety information exist for these products and therapies. Please consult a clinician and product instructions for use prior to application. Rx only.

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**Figure 1.** Presentation of wound dehiscence (5.5 x 3.5 x 1.5 cm<sup>3</sup>)



**Figure 2.** Application of V.A.C.® Therapy with Dermatac Drape.



**Figure 3.** Reapplication of V.A.C.® Therapy with Dermatac Drape.



**Figure 4.** Wound after 8 days of therapy.