



PICO® Dressing (MEDICAL DEVICE) A Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT) System

This is a growing area driven in some part by increases in diseases such as diabetes and peripheral vascular diseases.

Whilst the published data for PICO® dressing is limited, the data that is available shows benefits of increased perfusion and granulation, better healing rates and a reduction in nursing time.
When used in appropriate patients PICO® dressings are likely to be cost effective.

In the East Lancs Health Economy PICO® dressings are RED.

They are accepted for use in patients with more difficult to manage wounds or those at an increased risk of infection who would benefit from a negative pressure wound therapy system on the grounds that:-

- PICO® dressings are only initiated by physicians with a special interest in wound therapy or by tissue viability nurses.
- Patients must have a full wound assessment documented.
- The underlying cause of the wound and any complications must be established to enable assessment of the appropriate application.
- Once initiated and the patient has been discharged back into the community then **all** patients must be reviewed by community tissue viability teams at **two weeks**, to ensure on-going need of PICO® dressings - a long term treatment plan should be outlined at this stage.
- **Any ongoing prescribing of PICO® dressings in primary care must be overseen by the tissue viability nurses and there should be no GP prescribing.**

References

1. http://www.cochrane.org/CD011334/WOUNDS_negative-pressure-woundtherapy-for-treating-pressure-ulcers
2. <http://www.cochrane.org/CD010318/negative-pressure-wound-therapy-fortreating-foot-wounds-in-people-with-diabetes-mellitus>

Acknowledgement
GMMMG New Therapies Subgroup.