

## Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

Issue Date	Review Date	Version
April 2020	April 2025	4

### Purpose

To provide a robust framework to ensure a consistent approach to the use of TNPWT across the whole organisation and to ensure this approach is applied to patients transferred in and out of the organisation requiring TNPWT.

### Who should read this document?

All clinical staff who have contact with patients receiving or planned to receive TNPWT as part of their therapy.

### Key Messages

TNPWT is an advanced wound therapy that requires holistic patient assessment and a clear plan of care in order to be a cost-effective and safe therapeutic intervention for patients. Therapy should only be prescribed and applied by those with appropriate knowledge and skill; only competent users should use this technique.

### Core accountabilities

<b>Owner</b>	Lead Nurse Tissue Viability
<b>Review</b>	Clinical Effectiveness Group
<b>Ratification</b>	Assistant Medical Director – Paul McArdle
<b>Dissemination (Raising Awareness)</b>	Lead Nurse Tissue Viability
<b>Compliance</b>	Clinical Matrons

### Links to other policies and procedures

N/A

### Version History

1	March 2017	Initial Document
2	April 2019	Revised Document
3	January 2020	Revised Document
4	April 2020	Revised document (Final version)

*The Trust is committed to creating a fully inclusive and accessible service. Making equality and diversity an integral part of the business will enable us to enhance the services we deliver and better meet the needs of patients and staff. We will treat people with dignity and respect, promote equality and diversity and eliminate all forms of discrimination, regardless of (but not limited to) age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage/civil partnership and pregnancy/maternity.*

**An electronic version of this document is available on Trust Documents.  
Larger text, Braille and Audio versions can be made available upon request.**

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## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (TNPWT) is a treatment option for a variety of wounds. It works by delivering an adjustable degree of negative pressure direct to the wound surface to either assist with the healing process, or manage exudate. It is suitable for the treatment of adults or children.

## 2 Purpose

- 2.1 This document identifies who can authorise the use of TNPWT. It describes essential requirements for documentation of therapy initiation and during on-going management. It also states the requirement for efficient management of a patient's discharge arrangements to ensure that therapy can be continued if reasonably practicable when transferring to another funding authority (e.g. other acute provider or community provider). The process for use of NPWT is outlined in Appendix 3. This will ensure that within University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust (hereafter referred to as the Trust), NPWT is approached in a safe and cost effective way for the benefit of patients.

## 3 Definitions

- 3.1 **Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (TNPWT):** The delivery of negative pressure to a wound in order to promote the normal physiological process of wound healing
- 3.2 **Wound:** Any break in skin integrity
- 3.3 **Filler:** Material used to fill a wound cavity to act as a medium for the delivery of NPWT (e.g. PHMB gauze, black foam, white foam)
- 3.4 **Wound Interface:** A material used as a contact layer between the wound filler and the wound bed (e.g. non-adherent gauze, silicone, antimicrobial product)
- 3.5 **Conventional device:** A canistered system of NPWT delivery that requires periodic charging and can be used on multiple patients when decontaminated between applications (e.g. Renasys)
- 3.6 **Ultraportable device:** A single use item that is disposable after the completion of a treatment cycle (e.g. PICO)

## 4 Duties

- 4.1 **The Board of Directors**, through the Chief Nurse and Medical Director, are responsible for providing assurance that sufficient resources are available for clinical staff to comply with this policy.
- 4.2 The **Lead Nurse for Tissue Viability** is responsible for:
- Monitoring policy implementation and adherence
  - Clinical advice regarding prescription and use of therapy
  - Providing education and training opportunities to appropriate healthcare professionals
- 4.3 The **Medical Equipment Management lead** is responsible for:
- Asset registration and maintenance of TNPWT equipment whilst on site
  - Monitoring of equipment transfers to other funding authorities
  - Ensuring adequate stock levels of TNPWT consumables
  - Provision of equipment and consumables through the Medical Equipment Library (MEL)

4.4 **Registered healthcare professionals** are responsible for:

- Appropriate prescription of TNPWT (only by those listed in 5.1)
- Evaluation of wounds being treated with TNPWT to identify concerns or contraindications for continued therapy
- Competent application of prescribed TNPWT
- Arrangement of care for patients receiving TNPWT when transferred to community providers or other acute healthcare facilities

**Band 4 Associate Practitioners** - may undertake TNPWT following training and completion of TNPWT competencies (and wound care competencies if not previously completed as part of training) following a prescribed dressing plan. Initial dressing and plan of care should be carried out by registered nurse, surgeon or podiatrist

**Band 3 Health Care Assistants** - may undertake TNPWT dressing following training and completion of wound care competencies and TNPWT competencies providing registered practitioner (registered nurse, surgeon, podiatrist) has reviewed and assessed the wound at time of dressing change and advised on prescribed care.

## 5 Main Body of Policy

### 5.1 Prescription and Monitoring of Therapy

TNPWT should be prescribed following a thorough wound assessment. Consideration about suitability of therapy must be based on a patient's holistic situation as well as wound condition.

Wound dimensions must be documented in all cases with the exception of laparostomy management using an open abdomen management system.

TNPWT can be prescribed only by the following:

- Consultant Surgeon
  - Surgical registrars acting under authorisation from their consultants may prescribe TNPWT, though the consultant will remain responsible.
- Tissue Viability Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Podiatrist

An initial prescription of TNPWT must include the following information:

- Aim of therapy
- Choice of device
- Any wound contact interface medium to be used
- Choice of filler
- Type of drainage device (port or channel drain)
- Therapy pressure settings
- Dressing frequency
- Planned specialist review
- Any special instructions with rationale (see examples below)

e.g. "TNPWT to facilitate wound closure by secondary intention. Renasys Go using black foam and port. Therapy set to -120mmHg continuous delivery. Dressing changes as per standard protocol. Consultant review in 1/52."

*“TNPWT to prepare a wound for grafting. Renasys Go using black foam to deliver -120mmHg continuous therapy. Dressing change in theatre in 3 days +/- application of split thickness skin graft”*

*“TNPWT to support suture line closure. PICO device direct to closed suture line. Dressing change as per standard protocol. Consultant review in 1/52”.*

*“TNPWT to facilitate wound closure by secondary intention. Renasys Go using Polymem Silver WIC and PHMB gauze with channel drain. Therapy set to -80mmHg continuous delivery. Dressing changes as per standard protocol. Tissue Viability review in 2/7 at first dressing change. If exudate appears to be pooling in the dressing, increase pressure -100mmHg.”*

If the nurse undertaking the dressing considers the prescribed therapy to be questionable based on their own assessment, they should discuss initially with the prescriber. Tissue Viability will be available for advice if the prescriber cannot be contacted, cannot support further wound assessment or requires advice about suitable alternative management.

## **5.2 Contraindications & Precautions**

Prescribers must take note of the following cautions and contraindications providing a written rationale if they deem it clinically appropriate to prescribe therapy despite these.

### **Contraindications**

- Necrotic tissue with eschar
- Untreated osteomyelitis
- Malignancy in wound (with exception of palliative care to enhance quality of life)
- Exposed arteries, veins, organs or nerves
- Non-enteric and unexplored fistulas
- Anastomotic sites

### **Precautions**

- Actively bleeding or have friable blood vessels or organs
- Abnormal wound haemostasis
- Untreated malnutrition
- Non-compliant or combative (also consider patients with no fixed abode)
- Wounds in close proximity to blood vessels or friable fascia
- Enteroatmospheric fistulae – These must be isolated from NPWT

## **5.2 Wound Dressing Changes**

All dressing changes must be documented appropriately. If undertaken in theatre, this should be included on the operation note with details as per therapy prescription requirement. The operation note must also contain appropriate

information about the wound. If undertaken on the ward by nursing staff this must be documented on a wound assessment and care plan with a thorough reassessment of the wound and details of the therapy reapplied.

Dressing changes should be undertaken using an aseptic technique. There may be occasions when the nature of the wound makes this difficult, though every effort should be made to maintain an aseptic approach to wound management. The number of pieces of filler used should be documented in wound care plan to limit the risk of retained products (or in operation notes if done in theatre).

For wound dressings undertaken in a theatre environment staff should be aware of and adhere to the Local Standards for Safety with invasive procedures (LocSSIP) and the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Management of planned retained dressing.

Patients with a laparostomy being managed with TNPWT must not have dressing changes undertaken on an open ward environment. ITU cubicles and anaesthetic rooms are an appropriate alternative to an operating theatre but an operating theatre environment must be the first choice. Laparostomy dressings should only be changed by appropriately trained surgical speciality trainees and consultants or clinical nurse specialists in an appropriate speciality (e.g. tissue viability). Patients receiving NPWT for this purpose must be identified to the tissue viability service if the abdomen cannot be closed within 7 days of incision.

### **5.3 Discharge Arrangements**

Patients must be referred to those responsible for onward care post-discharge at the earliest opportunity. At least 24 hours' notice is expected by all receiving care providers (in exceptional circumstances they may agree to accept responsibility for patient care in less than 24 hours but this must be agreed with the care provider first). When patients are discharged following day case procedures with TNPWT, community services must be informed of the discharge as outlined above, even if the patient is having their next dressing change in an outpatient setting.

A TNPWT referral form (available in tissue viability section on staffnet) must be completed and emailed to the appropriate Tissue Viability service responsible for management of TNPWT within the funding authority. A copy must also be emailed to the medical equipment library. An actual discharge date can be provided closer to the known discharge date.

In community settings, the community nursing team must also agree to accept care of the patient and be available on the next day that a dressing change is required.

Enough equipment for 2 complete dressing changes (normally 1 canister and 2 dressing kits) must be sent with the patient on day of discharge. In the case of PICO, this may not be necessary unless a new therapy cycle is due to commence within 5 days of discharge and it is clinically unacceptable for therapy to be interrupted. This can be discussed with the Tissue Viability service if advice is required.

TNPWT devices must be sent with the patient if funding and care has been agreed, along with the transit case and battery charger.

## 5.4 Equipment

There is full out of hours access to TNPWT equipment and consumables in the MEL via your Trust swipe card. To ensure that the correct equipment and consumables are selected, a TNPWT order form must be completed and used to select the correct items in the MEL. The completed form must be put in the tray by the checkout in MEL for the records to be updated. If the ward does not hold order forms they are available in the MEL.

Each TNPWT device is asset registered and can be tracked. It is essential that if the device is no longer required, that it is returned promptly to the MEL prior to use for another patient.

TNPWT devices must be thoroughly cleaned and inspected in the MEL between patients and prior to initial use.

Loss or damage to TNPWT equipment will result in the clinical area where the patient is based being charged for repair or replacement of the device.

## 5.5 Training and Competence

Registered healthcare professionals (e.g. Registered Nurse, Registered Medical Practitioner, Operating Department Practitioner, Podiatrist) who are responsible for the prescription or application of TNPWT must feel confident and competent in their ability to assess, make an appropriate clinical decision and safely apply TNPWT. Only competent users should use this wound care technique.

Band 4 associate practitioners and band 3 health care assistants who will be undertaking TNPWT dressing changes will also be required to undertake training and demonstrate competencies.

Formal training will be offered by the tissue viability service at least twice yearly. It is highly recommended that staff attend this training at their earliest opportunity. If staff do not attend this training they must be able to prove their competence through their knowledge and skills in practice in accordance with locally agreed competencies.

Staff will be expected to complete a self-declaration of competence if attendance on formal training and formal assessment of competence is not undertaken and they are routinely applying NPWT without support from an appropriately trained individual (appendix 4).

## 6 Overall Responsibility for the Document

Lead Nurse Tissue Viability

## 7 Consultation and Ratification

The design and process of review and revision of this policy will comply with The Development and Management of Formal Documents.

Consultation was sought from all surgical consultants and the surgical care group governance committee. Matrons and ward managers from high use surgical ward and theatre areas were sought

The review period for this document is set as default of five years from the date it was last ratified, or earlier if developments within or external to the Trust indicate the need for a significant revision to the procedures described.

This document will be reviewed by the Clinical Effectiveness Group.

Non-significant amendments to this document may be made, under delegated authority from the Director for Surgery, by the nominated owner. These must be ratified by the Clinical Director for Surgery and should be reported, retrospectively, to the Clinical Effectiveness Group.

Significant reviews and revisions to this document will include a consultation with named groups, or grades across the Trust. For non-significant amendments, informal consultation will be restricted to named groups, or grades who are directly affected by the proposed changes.

## **Dissemination and Implementation**

Following approval and ratification, this policy will be published in the Trust's formal documents library and all staff will be notified through the Trust's normal notification process, currently the 'Vital Signs' electronic newsletter.

Document control arrangements will be in accordance with The Development and Management of Formal Documents.

The document owner will be responsible for agreeing the training requirements associated with the newly ratified document with the named Clinical Director for Surgery and for working with the Trust's training function, if required, to arrange for the required training to be delivered.

## **9 Monitoring Compliance and Effectiveness**

- Compliance with delivering an appropriate prescription of therapy will be audited twice yearly by Tissue Viability on a sample of 5% of all patients who receive NPWT during the previous 12 months.
- Training records for nursing staff should be maintained by clinical areas who use TNPWT and areas where TNPWT is used regularly should maintain a level of 80% staff training completion within a 3 year period.
- A report will be issued to the surgical care group of the audit results with recommendations about meeting basic policy compliance.

## **10 References and Associated Documentation**

World Union of Wound Healing Societies Closed Surgical Incision Management

Vowden et al (2007). Topical Negative pressure in wound management.  
[www.woundsinternational.com/media/issues/84/files/content\\_46.pdf](http://www.woundsinternational.com/media/issues/84/files/content_46.pdf)

Wounds UK (2008). Best Practice Statement: Gauze based Negative Pressure Wound therapy. Aberdeen, Wounds UK.  
[http://www.wounds-uk.com/pdf/content\\_8948.pdf](http://www.wounds-uk.com/pdf/content_8948.pdf)

Wounds International (2010).  
[http://www.wintjournal.com/media/journals/\\_/376/files/wij1-5-29-32.pdf](http://www.wintjournal.com/media/journals/_/376/files/wij1-5-29-32.pdf)

[European Wound Management Association Position Document \(2007\)](#)

<b>Dissemination Plan</b>			
<b>Document Title</b>	Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy		
<b>Date Finalised</b>	April 2020		
<b>Previous Documents</b>			
<b>Action to retrieve old copies</b>	No previous policy in place		
<b>Dissemination Plan</b>			
<b>Recipient(s)</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>How</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
All Trust staff		Vital Signs	Information Governance Team
Unit managers and staff as identified by those managers on: Penrose, Lyhner, Clearbrook, Crownhill Shaugh, Stonehouse, Wolf, Surgical Assessment Unit and Theatre areas where NPWT is used	Ongoing education and support programme	Email  Direct contact with NPWT clinical nurse specialist	Tissue Viability Lead Nurse
Surgical trainees and consultants	Ongoing education and support programme	Email  Direct contact with NPWT clinical nurse specialist	Tissue Viability Lead Nurse

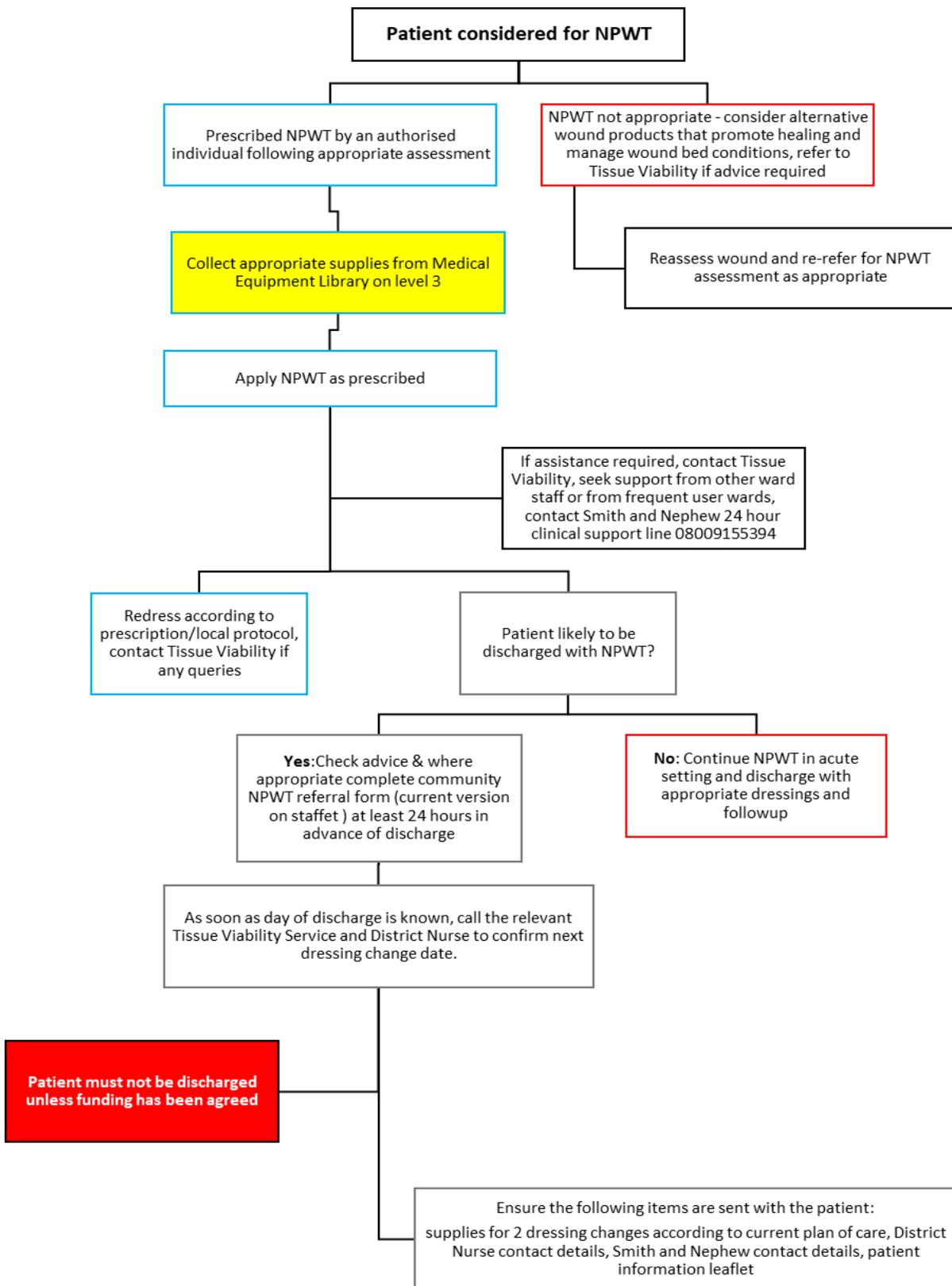
<b>Review Checklist</b>		
<b>Title</b>	Is the title clear and unambiguous?	Yes
	Is it clear whether the document is a policy, procedure, protocol, framework, APN or SOP?	Yes
	Does the style & format comply?	Yes
<b>Rationale</b>	Are reasons for development of the document stated?	Yes
<b>Development Process</b>	Is the method described in brief?	Yes
	Are people involved in the development identified?	Yes
	Has a reasonable attempt has been made to ensure relevant expertise has been used?	Yes
	Is there evidence of consultation with stakeholders and users?	Yes
<b>Content</b>	Is the objective of the document clear?	Yes
	Is the target population clear and unambiguous?	Yes
	Are the intended outcomes described?	Yes
	Are the statements clear and unambiguous?	Yes
<b>Evidence Base</b>	Is the type of evidence to support the document identified explicitly?	Yes
	Are key references cited and in full?	Yes
	Are supporting documents referenced?	N/A
<b>Approval</b>	Does the document identify which committee/group will review it?	Yes
	If appropriate have the joint Human Resources/staff side committee (or equivalent) approved the document?	N/A
	Does the document identify which Executive Director will ratify it?	Yes
<b>Dissemination &amp; Implementation</b>	Is there an outline/plan to identify how this will be done?	Yes
	Does the plan include the necessary training/support to ensure compliance?	Yes

<b>Document Control</b>	Does the document identify where it will be held?	Yes
	Have archiving arrangements for superseded documents been addressed?	N/A
<b>Monitoring Compliance &amp; Effectiveness</b>	Are there measurable standards or KPIs to support the monitoring of compliance with and effectiveness of the document?	Yes
	Is there a plan to review or audit compliance with the document?	Yes
<b>Review Date</b>	Is the review date identified?	Yes
	Is the frequency of review identified? If so is it acceptable?	Yes
<b>Overall Responsibility</b>	Is it clear who will be responsible for co-ordinating the dissemination, implementation and review of the document?	Yes

<b>Core Information</b>	
<b>Date</b>	29/01/2020
<b>Title</b>	Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy
<b>What are the aims, objectives &amp; projected outcomes?</b>	To detail the roles and responsibilities of staff involved in the prescription and application of TNPWT. To provide a clear process for the prescription of therapy and discharge of patients receiving therapy.
<b>Scope of the assessment</b>	
<p>The assessment covers all protected characteristics</p> <p>The EIA was produced by the Trust's Equality &amp; Diversity Lead</p> <p>Incidents are monitored via datix and reported as necessary</p>	
<b>Collecting data</b>	
<b>Race</b>	<p>There is no evidence to suggest there is disproportionate impact on race regarding this policy.</p> <p>Consideration will be made for patients with English as a second language to ensure they are able to understand and provide consent to the procedure</p> <p>Data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored</p>
<b>Religion</b>	<p>There is no evidence to suggest there is a disproportionate impact on religion or belief and non-belief regarding this policy.</p> <p>Consideration will be made for patients who have specific religious requirements. This will be monitored through complaints and incidents.</p> <p>Data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored.</p>
<b>Disability</b>	<p>There is no evidence to suggest there is a disproportionate impact on disability regarding this policy.</p> <p>However, data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored.</p> <p>Consideration will be made for patients who have special requirements. This will be monitored through complaints and incidents.</p>
<b>Sex</b>	<p>There is no evidence to suggest there is a disproportionate impact on sex regarding this policy.</p> <p>However, data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored.</p>
<b>Gender Identity</b>	<p>There is currently no data collected for this area.</p> <p>However, data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored</p>

<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	There is no evidence to suggest there is disproportionate impact on sexual orientation regarding this policy.  However, data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored.
<b>Age</b>	There is no evidence to suggest there is a disproportionate impact on age regarding this policy.  However, data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored.
<b>Socio-Economic</b>	There is currently no data collected for this area. However, data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored.
<b>Human Rights</b>	Data collected from Datix incident reporting will ensure this is monitored
<b>What are the overall trends/patterns in the above data?</b>	No comparative data has been used to date which means that no trends or patterns have been identified.

Involving and consulting stakeholders				
<b>Internal involvement and consultation</b>	All surgeons All ward and department managers All matrons Heads of Nursing Surgical Care Group Governance Committee			
<b>External involvement and consultation</b>				
Impact Assessment				
<b>Overall assessment and analysis of the evidence</b>				
Action Plan				
Action	Owner	Risks	Completion Date	Progress update
Monitor incidents linked to this policy via Datix	Lead Nurse for Tissue Viability	Minimal	Ongoing	N/A
<b>Specific issues and data gaps that may need to be addressed through consultation or further research</b>	No gaps have been identified at this stage but this will be monitored via data collected from Datix incident reporting.			



Name	
Profession (e.g. RN)	
Role (e.g. Staff Nurse, Consultant)	
Professional Registration Number	

I declare that I have read the local policy on use of Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT). I confirm that I have the necessary knowledge related to mechanisms of action, indications and contraindications for therapy commencement/continuation to be able to (select all that apply):

- Prescribe this therapy and the plan of care that should accompany it in a safe and effective way.
- Apply NPWT dressings safely.
- Monitor NPWT delivery to ensure effective therapy.

Signature	
Date	

**Aim of Competency:**

Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (TNPWT) is a therapeutic option for a variety of wounds. The dressing works by removing excess exudate and assists with the healing process by delivering a controlled adjustable degree of negative pressure direct to the wound surface. It is suitable for the treatment of both adults and children (under the guidance of the prescribing consultant, podiatrist or Tissue Viability service).

The practitioner will be able to understand the underpinning principles of TNPWT whereby delivering safe and effective wound management for the patient.

The Practitioner will be able to demonstrate the knowledge and skill required to undertake the application of TNPWT, whilst monitoring and evaluating the therapy.

These competencies are to be used in conjunction with the Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Policy (2020)

**Entry Criteria**

Registered Healthcare Professional (e.g. Doctor, Registered Nurse, Podiatrists, Band 4 Associate practitioners, Band 3 Health Care Assistants (who have completed the wound care competencies) and Registered Operating Department Practitioners.

All Practitioners should read the negative pressure policy pack

**Negative Pressure Wound Therapy: Learning Contract:**

**Outcomes: The learner will need to:**

- **Identify the stages of wound healing and undertake a comprehensive wound assessment**

- **Understand the modes of action of TNPWT**
- **Apply, monitor, evaluate and document TNPWT**

**Learner: I confirm that I will comply with the following responsibilities:** Acknowledge and accept practitioners' own limitations with the use of TNPWT.

- I will familiarise myself with the Trust's Topical Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Policy (2020)
- Work within my own code of Professional Practice
- Utilise all resources;  
Smith and Nephew Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Clinical Guidelines.  
[https://www.smith-nephew.com/global/assets/pdf/products/2-sn7820b-npwt-clinical\\_guidelines.pdf](https://www.smith-nephew.com/global/assets/pdf/products/2-sn7820b-npwt-clinical_guidelines.pdf)  
Portable, single-use negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) quick guide (PICO)  
[https://www.smith-nephew.com/south-africa/products/wound\\_management/product-search/pico/](https://www.smith-nephew.com/south-africa/products/wound_management/product-search/pico/)
- Ensure that agreed timeframes are set and met.

Name of staff member	Role	Signature	Date

Trust Assessors are: Tissue viability specialist nurses, Negative pressure company Clinical nurse specialist and trained competent members of the Clinical Education Team

**Assessor: I confirm that I will comply with the following responsibilities:**

- Provide time, support and guidance for the learner
- Signpost the learner to relevant research and information to support evidence based practise
- Facilitate learning and practice
- Provide constructive feedback.

Name of Mentor/Assessor	Role	Signature	Date

**For prescribers only: Prescribe appropriately in line with TNPWT policy.**

## Assessment of Competence

The assessor must complete the assessment table based on the following levels of

Level	Description
1	Does not know anything about the skill.
2	Doubts knowledge and ability to perform the skill safely without supervision.
3	Could perform the skill safely with supervision.
4	Confident of knowledge and ability to perform the skill safely.
5	Could teach knowledge and skills to others and can demonstrate initiative and adaptability to situations.

competence:

Assessment table:

Standards for use – Prescribers and Practitioners will need to be able to:	Date Level (1-5)	Comments
<i>Understand the Trust's Negative Pressure Wound Therapy Policy (2020)</i>		
<i>Demonstrate an ability to undertake a competent holistic wound assessment to identify the need for NPWT (consider TIME).</i>		
<p><i>Practitioners should be able to describe the criteria of a full prescription for TNPWT to include</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Aim of therapy and the rationale of use</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Describe and explain the choice of device and their mechanism of use</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Renasys</li> <li>-PICO</li> <li>- Open abdomen kit</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <i>Describe and explain use of a wound contact dressing</i></li> <li>➤ <i>The choice of filler- e.g. Foam or gauze</i></li> <li>➤ <i>The number of pieces of filler used MUST be recorded</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Explain and understand the appropriate therapy pressure settings</i></li> <li>➤ <i>The buttons and their functions</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Able to complete a dressing</i></li> </ul>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>plan</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Understand when a planned specialist review may be needed</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Describe when any special instructions may be needed under the practitioner's rationale- e.g. infection</i></li> </ul>		
<i>Demonstrate an understanding of the various wounds where TNPWT is indicated and appropriate</i>		
<i>Document clear and measurable treatment goals, which should always be communicated and consented with the patient as appropriate.</i>		
<i>Identify any potential barriers to wound healing and address these where possible</i>		
<i>Describe the mode(s) of action of TNPWT</i>		
<i>Understand and explain the contraindications and precautions to the use of TNPWT</i>		
<i>Demonstrate an understanding of the variety of TNPWT delivery devices used in the trust. The practitioner must understand the features and functionality of each device and the dressing overall dressing handling capacity. For example, understanding when PICO is not appropriate for a wound.</i>		

<b>Standards for use – Prescribers and Practitioners will need to be able to:</b>	<b>Date: Band:</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<i>Demonstrate an understanding of the wound fillers and dressing techniques relevant to the specialist area of practice.</i>		
<i>Demonstrate understanding of when to stop TNPWT and what to do if adverse reactions occur</i>		
<i>Demonstrate the ability to recognise when TNPWT should be appropriately discontinued and replaced by another form of treatment based on accurate clinical assessment dependant on the treatment goals set for the patient.</i>		
<i>Demonstrate a clear understanding of the discharge process and the management of the therapy on discharge from the trust.</i>		
<i>Practitioners should be demonstrating clear documentation of care given</i>		

(On successful completion: complete the summative sign off below)

**Summative sign-off sheet**

Name of staff achieving the competency	Role	Signature	Date
Name of Assessor	Role	Signature	Date
Name of Line Manager	Role	Signature	Date

We hereby confirm that ..... Has achieved the above competency.

Review Date .....

Following completion of above competencies a self-declaration of competence form must be completed every subsequent 2 years and a copy given to line manager.