MicroDoc Dressing Protocol for Application Success

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Negative Pressure. Positive Results.

This guide walks you step-by-step through the best practices to apply the MicroDoc device and dressing system. Follow this protocol to help ensure a secure seal, improve patient comfort and minimize complications during negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT).

Step 1: Before You Begin

Prior to handing off the MicroDoc device and dressing, conduct the "finger test".

- Place your fingertip over the stem and press the BLUE button to -80mmHg.
- Within 3-5 seconds, the BLUE light on the device should be blinking and the GREEN light will be off.
- Once successful, hold the BLUE button for 6 seconds to turn the device OFF.
- Thread the Velcro through the slots so it's ready.
- 💡 **Pro Tip:** Keep the Velcro side facing down when running it through the back slots.

Step 2: In the OR

Open the dressing pack, place the dressing and included strips on the sterile OR table.

- Keep the Ultra Seal Preferred Strips separate – they are NOT sterile and go on AFTER the dressing is applied.
- Let the clinician/team know we now offer NEW Ultra Seal Preferred Strips, which we recommend applying first.
- If desired, they can also add the pack's strips for extra support.
- FYI: We're the only manufacturer that includes extra strips for better outcomes.

Step 3: Dressing Application

Gently place the dressing – no stretching or pulling.

- Ensure the dome is proximal and not directly on the incision
- **Reminder:** The silicone design makes the dressing easy to apply and remove for patient comfort. Because it can be removed easily, use Ultra Seal Strips to keep it secured for the full course of therapy.

Step 4: After the Dressing

Afer dressing is placed, smooth the dressing by running fingers across the surface and along the border to remove air pockets and creases.

Apply Ultra Seal Strips:

- Place on Ultra Seal Strip on each side of the dressing, slightly overlapping the white pad.
- Cut a third strip in half and place the pieces at the top and bottom of the dressing.
- **Important:** The dressing must be able to breathe to evaporate the water portion (90%) of the exudate. Do not cover the dressing with anything occlusive.

Step 5: Monitoring

Hand the device to the patient and guide them through the quick connect. Monitor the dressing closely for signs it needs changing.

- Recommended to start at -80mmHg. Push the BLUE button twice to set -80mmHg. A seal should be achieved within 3–5 seconds.
- You and the patient may choose to use the additional strips. (If not, ensure the extra dressing and strips go with the patient to their room.)
- **Change Dressing When:** Drainage is pooling under the dome or fluid is accumulating at the dressing edges.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if there's a leak?

A: The device auto-adjusts through its 3 pressure settings to attempt to regain a seal. If it can't, it shuts off and restarts in approximately 40 min. If still unsuccessful, no need to panic – the dressing holds fluid safely. Have the patient contact the office to apply a new dressing.

Q: Will there be discoloration in the dressing?

A: Yes, that's normal and good – the dressing traps exudate, evaporates water, and keeps the bad material off healthy skin.

Q: Why place the dome proximal and off the incision?

A: The dome is where NPWT is applied and if drainage were to get in the dome, it would cause a blockage. Placing it proximal prevents gravity from pulling fluid into the port.

Q: How do you turn off/on or change pressure settings?

A: Hold the BLUE button 6 sec to power off. Press again to select a pressure setting. The 6-second press prevents accidental changes.

Q: Can the device or dressing get wet?

A: Devices are not waterproof – disconnect before showering. Dressings are water-resistant, but it's best to wrap the dressing or avoid getting them wet.

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