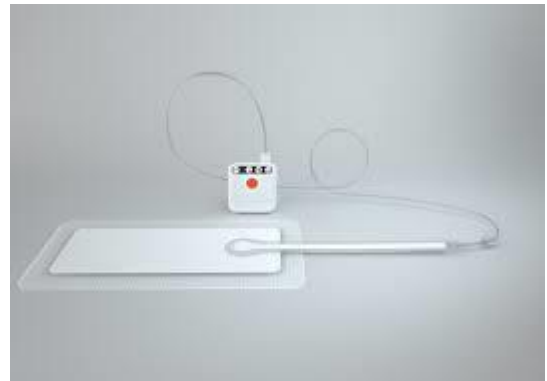


# Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

A negative pressure wound therapy system is a pump attached to an adhesive dressing (bandage). It protects a wound and helps it heal by:

- ✓ pulling (suctions) excess fluids and infection out of a wound
- ✓ keeping compressive pressure on the wound area
- ✓ keeping dirt out of your wound



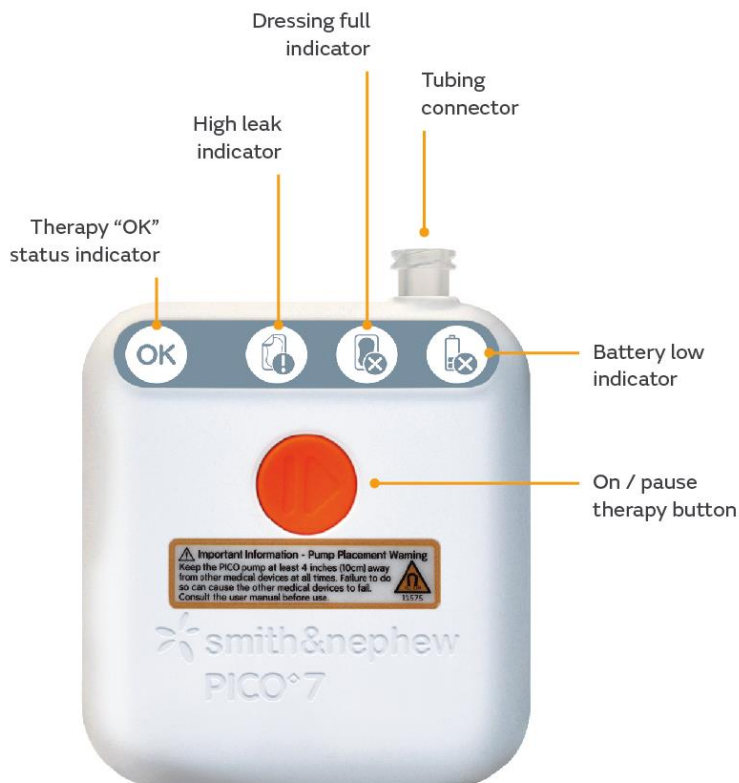
This pump is called the PICO 7.

The tubing from the dressing connects at the top of the pump device.

The front has 1 orange button to turn on the pump or to pause it.


There are 4 LED indicator lights that show the status:

- OK
- high leak
- dressing is full
- battery is low



## How do I know it is working?

When working, there will be a flashing green light on the device. The dressing (bandage) will look wrinkled and feel firm to the touch.

	How it works	Benefit
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The dressing is applied to your wound. Though there is an adhesive on the dressing, extra tape strips are usually put on to help keep it in place.</li> <li>✓ The tubing on the dressing is attached to the pump device</li> <li>✓ When the pump is turned on, air is pulled out of the dressing and fluid from the wound gets pulled up into the dressing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Removes excess fluid from the wound</li> <li>✓ Helps stop bacteria from getting into the wound</li> <li>✓ May help increase blood flow to the wound, which helps speed healing.</li> </ul>

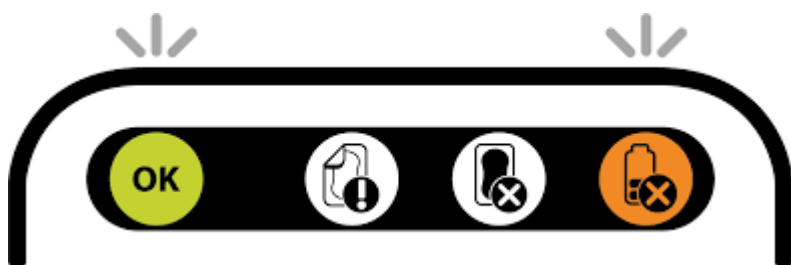
### How will it feel when the pump is turned on?

At first, you may feel a slight tugging or pulling sensation. If you feel any pain, let your nurse know right away!

### How long does it take to work?

It is different for every person. You may see an improvement in days or it may take several weeks.

### When do I change the batteries?



The pump runs on two AA alkaline batteries. If the “Low Battery” light starts to flash at the same time as the green “OK” light, it means there is less than 24 hours of charge left, and you should change the batteries.

1. Press button on front of pump to pause the therapy.
2. Remove the battery cover from the pump, and replace the old batteries with 2 new ones. (There’s a diagram on the battery compartment showing you how the batteries should be positioned.).
3. Put the cover back on, and press the button on the front of the pump to turn it back on.

### How often are dressings changed and does it hurt?

The dressing may be in place for up to 7 days. Your wound specialist will decide how often to change the dressing. You may have discomfort during the dressing changes when they clean the wound. If you have pain, please tell the person who is changing your dressing. Note: The pump is meant for a single use lasting 7 days. After 7 days, the pump will no longer cause negative pressure on your wound. If you still need negative pressure, your nurse or doctor will need to give you a new pump system.

## What about activity and sleep?

Your doctor will let you know what kinds of movement/activities are OK and what to avoid. Before you go to sleep, be sure to put the pump on a level secure place so that it is not pulled or thrown onto the floor while you are sleeping. The pump should remain connected and “on” while you sleep.

## What about showering?

Remove your device before showering. Though the device can be resistant to splashes of water, do not let it be hit by streams or jets of water.

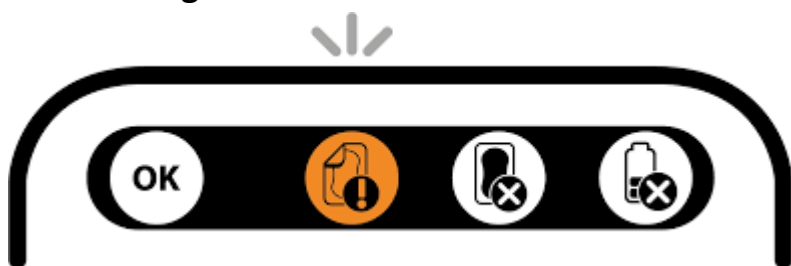
## How do I disconnect the pump from the dressing?

1. Disconnect the pump from the dressing by unscrewing the connector that is built into the tubing.
2. Press the button on the front of the pump to pause the negative pressure.
3. Disconnect the tubing from the pump.
4. Put the pump somewhere safely away from the water.
5. One end of the tubing will still be attached to the dressing. Make sure the other end (the unattached end) of the tubing is held OUT of the water and that it is facing downward so no water gets in the tubing.
6. The dressing/bandage is water resistant and you can leave in place as long as you don't let direct jets of water hit and soak the dressing. If it gets soaked, the dressing may fall off.

## After Showering

1. Reconnect the tubing so the dressing is attached to the pump again.
2. Check your dressing/bandage is lying flat (no creases) against your skin.
3. Press the button on the front of the pump to restart it. (The green light will flash to show it is on.)

## Indicator Lights



**High Leak/Low Vacuum:** If the suction in the dressing is low, this orange light will flash and you will hear the pump make a buzzing noise as it tries to increase the suction. The dressing will still be able to absorb fluid but the negative pressure system will not be working when this light is flashing.

Check your dressing for air leaks around the edges of the dressing. Check if any areas of the dressing have lifted, and smooth down the outside of your dressing and the extra adhesive strips holding it in place. Press the orange button to restart the negative pressure therapy (The green light will flash). Wait about a minute to see if the orange leak light starts to flash again. If it does, the leak is still there.

Try to smooth the dressing and adhesive strips again and then press the orange button again to see if it worked.

If you continue to have problems with this indicator light flashing, contact your wound care specialist.

**Dressing Full:** If this lights up, it means the dressing is saturated or the filter is blocked. Either way, negative pressure system is not working. You will need to contact your provider or nurse to replace the dressing. Once the new dressing is in place, press the orange button to restart the negative pressure. Please note: Whenever the negative pressure system goes off, it will attempt to restart itself in about 1 hour.

**Multiple flashing lights:** If there are two orange lights flashing, there are two issues. Example, there may be a leak (low suction) AND the batteries may need replacing.

If all the lights are lit (but not flashing), the pump must be replaced. Call your doctor.

## **When to Call Your Doctor or Nurse**

### **Call us immediately if:**

- ✓ the fluid in the dressing changes from clear to cloudy or to bright red
- ✓ you see the dressing fill rapidly with blood
- ✓ your wound looks more red than usual or has a bad smell
- ✓ the skin around your wound looks irritated and red
- ✓ the dressing feels or looks loose
- ✓ you have new or increased pain
- ✓ the alarm does not turn off

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

After 5 p.m., weekends, and holidays, call **716-845-2300** and our Call Center staff will assist you. If it is determined you need to be seen, you may be asked to come to our Assessment & Treatment Center (ATC), which is open 24/7. You must be referred to the ATC by your provider or the provider on-call; it is not a walk in clinic.