

## Do Incisional Negative-Pressure Wound Dressings Help Improve Wound Healing Outcomes in Posterior Spinal Surgeries?

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## Abstract

**Objective:** Spine and spinal cord injuries are devastating life altering events. Surgery is undertaken with a goal of decompressing neural structures, attempting to re-align spinal anatomy and maintaining this alignment with surgical stabilization. A number of these procedures involve posterior cervical, thoracic and lumbar approached involving multiple levels, with a majority of them being open spinal procedures. At our Institution we have been using Negative-Pressure wound therapy as a primary post-operative dressing since 2016. Negative-pressure wound therapy as a primary dressing is being increasingly used with a goal of decreasing infection and dehiscence rates but recent literature is limited.

**Materials and methods:** We retrospectively reviewed our patients who underwent surgery having posterior open multi-level arthrodesis in the cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine following spine trauma. 30 and 90-day outcomes were evaluated for infection, dehiscence, need for out-patient wound care .

**Results:** The experience over time has been positive and we discuss our preliminary data and nuances in the use and care of these patients.

**Conclusions:** Negative-Pressure wound dressings if used appropriately add value to reduction of wound dehiscence rates and infections.

### Learning Objective:

Illustrate technical utilization of Negative-Pressure wound dressings for posterior spinal surgery

### Open Access

#### Abstract

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