

Case Study 2: Trauma of the Knee

Patient was a 22-year-old male, with no history of concomitant diseases, who presented with an open fracture of the left knee (comminuted fracture of the tibial plateau) with a skin defect on the anterior knee caused by a motorcycle accident. Extensive debridement was performed, followed by reconstruction of the bone with screws. Standard treatment, including pulsatile lavage and intravenous antibiotics, was initiated, but on Day 3, patient developed a skin infection with necrotizing bacteria based on both microbiologic data (ie, wound swabs and tissue samples) and clinical (eg, fever, redness, swelling, and pus) confirmation. On Day 6, debridement and articular lavage were performed, and V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Therapy was initiated using V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Dressings for 12 days. Saline (0.9% NaCl) was instilled until the foam was filled, followed by a soak time of 10 minutes. Instillation was repeated every 6 hours, followed by continuous negative pressure at -125 mmHg. Dressing changes occurred every 3 days with final dressing removal on Day 12 of therapy. Complete wound closure occurred 12 days after therapy was discontinued.



A. Initial presentation of open fracture of the left knee (comminuted fracture of the tibial plateau) with a skin defect on the anterior knee



B. Development of skin infection with necrotizing bacteria



C. Complete wound closure occurred 12 days after therapy was discontinued