

A 44-year-old female smoker presented to a long-term acute care (LTAC) facility following an aggressive debridement of her right lower extremity. Patient had a recent history of necrotizing fasciitis of the limb as a result of a benign scratch on the posterior right leg. Patient's past medical history included hypertension and anemia.

Upon initial evaluation, it was noted that the entire circumference of the right calf had been surgically denuded through the subcutaneous layer. There were free-hanging tissue flaps extending from the posterior leg. At the time of LTAC admission, the deficit measured 30cm x 55cm x 3cm, with islands of slough and fibrotic tissue present throughout the wound base (**Figure A**). Drainage was heavy, but clear.

V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Therapy (KCI, an Acelyty company San Antonio, TX) was initiated using a V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Dressing (KCI, an Acelyty company, San Antonio, TX) and instillation of a hypochlorous solution (Clorpactin® WCS-90®; United Guardian, Inc., Hauppauge, NY) with a 20-minute dwell time, followed by 2 hours of continuous negative pressure at -150mmHg.

Dressing changes were performed three times weekly. Wound photos and measurements were charted once weekly. After 6 weeks of V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Therapy, granulation tissue was present, and the wound measured 17cm x 34.5cm x 0.1cm (**Figure B**). Upon discharge from the LTAC facility, the patient was referred to a local plastic surgeon for skin graft closure.

Within 6 weeks of V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Therapy application, limb function was restored, and the patient was able to make a complete recovery with no long-term sequelae. This case demonstrated that V.A.C. VeraFlo™ Therapy was useful as an adjunctive therapy in managing a lower extremity wound with extensive tissue loss in an LTAC setting.

Lower Extremity Wound with Extensive Tissue Loss



A. Wound at presentation



B. Wound after 6 weeks of therapy

Patient data and photos courtesy of Windy Cole, DPM, Cleveland Regency East Hospital, Warrensville Heights, Ohio

As with any case study, the results and outcomes should not be interpreted as a guarantee or warranty of similar results. Individual results may vary depending on the patient's circumstances and condition.

For more information, visit www.kci1.com or call 1.800.275.4524