



Concurrent Use of Collagen & Negative Pressure Wound Therapy in the Wound Healing Process

Negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) is an advanced wound therapy technique whereby a vacuum source is applied to the wound turning an open wound into a controlled, closed wound while removing excess fluid from the wound bed to enhance circulation and remove waste from the lymphatic system. Collagen dressings are also advanced wound therapies which act by mimicking the body's own collagen and jump starting the healing process by participating in all four phases of wound healing: hemostasis, inflammation, proliferation, and remodeling.

These two modalities could be used concurrently as an advanced wound care regimen. While NPWT does well to clean the wound, it does not participate in all four phases of wound healing. Pairing NPWT with a collagen dressing will not only clean and mildly debride the wound preparing it for granulation, the collagen dressing will then be able to heal the wound more efficiently and completely by stopping blood flow during the hemostasis phase, attracting monocytes and macrophages during the inflammation phase, attracting fibroblasts and allowing them to migrate during the proliferation phase, and finally providing a matrix for remodeling the tissue back to its original form in the last phase.