

# Use of a Novel, Variable Intermittent Negative Pressure Wound Therapy System to Treat a Post Proton Beam Squamous Cell Cancer Irradiated Scalp Wound.

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84year-old male referred by his Medical and Radiation Oncologists for evaluation of a non-healing wound of the fronto-parietal scalp. He had ignored the growing presence of a large mass in that area until the family recognized he was not getting help for it. Evaluation by a surgeon identified a mass too large for safe excision. He underwent primary proton beam radiation therapy with marked improvement. At the time of the initial evaluation, he had an additional 15 treatments left but his nephew wanted to see if healing could be accomplished as did his oncologists. The patient initially was not interested in getting wound care as he believed it would never heal. but later recanted and agreed to therapy. A retired professor, he wanted to self treat this and required constant convincing of the risks of doing so himself and well as seeing the ongoing healing via photos and measurement. The initial presentation showed significant purulence including dead skin, significant fibrin slough and raw injured skin and muscles in the area. Copious drainage was noted from the wound constantly.

The Genadyne XLR8 System using the Variable Intermittent mode and foam dressings at 100mmHg x 5 minutes and 20mmHg x 10 minutes with dressing changes 3x/week were initiated. Despite compliance issues including the patient tampering with the dressings and settings, the wound progressed well with ongoing decrease in all parameters. After 12 weeks of therapy, the NPWT was discontinued as the drainage was manageable with simple dressing changes twice a week.. The final picture shows a healed wound with thin but present epithelium.

11.4 x 5.5 x .3



November 25, 2014

7.2 x 4.1 x .2



January 6, 2015

7.2 x 2.7 x .1



February 10, 2015

Healed



March 10, 2015

