Title: Vacuum Assisted Wound Closure Devices for Sternal Wounds: Clinical and Cost-Effectiveness

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Research question:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of vacuum assisted wound closure devices compared to traditional wound packing and dressing change procedures for patients with sternal wounds?
2. What is the cost-effectiveness of vacuum assisted wound closure devices compared to traditional wound packing and dressing change procedures for patients with sternal wounds?

Methods:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 2, 2007), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international HTA agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2002 and the present, and are limited to English language publications only. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to systematic reviews/HTA, economic, randomized controlled trial (RCT) and observational studies. Internet links are provided, where available.

Results:

Two health technology assessments, one systematic review and two economic analyses were identified from the literature search results.

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Health technology assessments


Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Economic analyses and cost information


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Appendix – Further information:

Randomized controlled trials


Observational studies


Review articles


