



Wound Stories

Open
Wound

Jeanette & Thomas

#WoundStories



Jeanette
Nurse

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This was one of those wounds you remember. It was quite deep, almost down to fascia, with fistulas going both up and down the lower leg. And I recall the patient and his wife anxiously talking about amputation. I, however, was slightly more hopeful. To me, there was no doubt that negative pressure therapy would be our best chance at saving the leg.

Already after three days, I could see that the healing process had started just by looking at the wound, which is quite unusual. Seeing progress so clearly really spurred me on. I've been interested in negative pressure treatment ever since I first learned about the technique. For open wounds it's really the way to go, and I also use it on surgical wounds from time to time. Naturally you need to debride and maintain the wound, just like you would in any other case. But the negative pressure really helps to accelerate the healing.

Of course I like being able to improve people's lives. But what really drives me are the diverse challenges, both practical and intellectual that comes with my job. Every wound posts a new challenge, and there's nothing like 'cracking the code' on a tough one, like these deep cavity wounds. In fact, I often ponder possible solutions already when brushing my teeth in the mornings.”

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Thomas
Patient

In September 2021 I went on a motorcycle trip to Norway. In a tunnel I was hit from behind by a mobile home. And I ended up with the 600lbs bike on top of me. Apart from nine broken ribs and a broken collar bone. My leg was badly bruised. With a large. Blood-filled blister forming. When I came home to Sweden and my dressings were removed. The blister on my leg more or less exploded. Underneath was a 2.7 by 2.7 inches wide and 3.5 inches deep cavity.

At that point. Me and my wife. Who used to work as a nurse. Seriously feared I would need to have my leg amputated. Or if not. That it would take years to heal. It didn't feel very hopeful. But as it turned out. There happened to be a nurse on site that day, that worked with these vacuum pumps. I believe that saved my leg. Every time I had my dressings changed you could see improvement.

Having to wear the pump on my body day and night was not something that bothered me. I could just feel it buzzing now and then whilst I was working. I'm a blacksmith, and I managed to do some work even with the wound and all. About three and a half months after the accident, my wound was completely closed, just in time for us to celebrate it on New Year's Eve. Who would have thought?”