

# Salvage of Infected Breast Prostheses using Negative Pressure Wound Therapy with Instillation and Dwell\*

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## BACKGROUND

- Peri-prosthetic infection is a common complication of implant-based breast reconstruction (IBBR).
  - Reported incidence between 1-35%.<sup>1</sup>
- Standard practice for moderate to severe peri-prosthetic infection is device removal with attempted delayed reinsertion weeks to months following completion of the antibiotic regimen.
- Few studies have previously detailed the use of Negative Pressure Wound Therapy with Instillation and Dwell (NPWTi-d)\* in this setting to foster successful implant salvage.

## AIM

- To demonstrate the efficacy of NPWTi-d\* for salvage of prosthetic devices in IBBR.

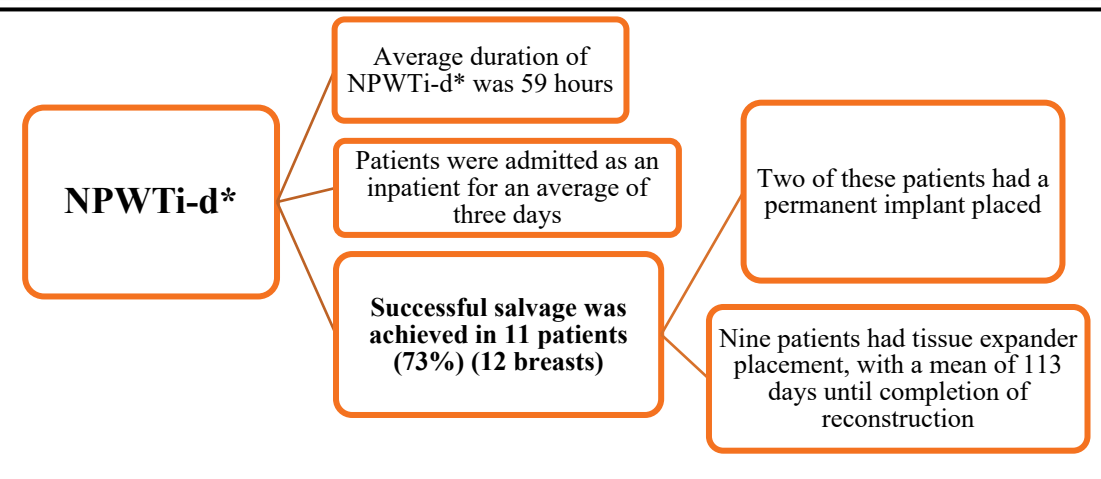
## METHODS

- Retrospective review of patients that underwent IBBR with one of three plastic surgeons between November 2020 and December 2022.
- Patients were included if they had IBBR complicated by peri-prosthetic infection and underwent attempted prosthesis salvage with NPWTi-d\*.

## RESULTS

**15 patients (16 reconstructed breasts) had prosthesis salvage attempted**

- Mean patient age was 52 years and BMI was 26.6 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.
- Five patients had a history of chemotherapy and one patient had prior radiation.
- Infection was diagnosed an average of 80 days following the reconstruction procedure:
  - 10 patients had an infected tissue expander.
  - 5 patients had an infected implant.



\* V.A.C VERAFLU CLENSURE CHOICE device (KCI, Acelity, San Antonio, TX, US)

## CONCLUSION

- Successful prosthesis salvage was achieved in most patients that developed moderate to severe peri-prosthetic infection with single application of a NPWTi-d\* device.
- Compared to implant removal with delayed reinsertion, NPWTi-d\* may offer a high success rate while reducing total recovery time and decreasing the number of additional operations.
- **Future Direction:** A large scale multi-institutional study is currently in progress.

1. Franchelli S, Pesce M, Baldelli I, Marchese A, Santi P, De Maria A. Analysis of clinical management of infected breast implants and of factors associated to successful breast pocket salvage in infections occurring after breast reconstruction. Int J Infect Dis. 2018 Jun;71:67-72.

