

medaxis

# THE VALUE OF A GOOD DEBRIDEMENT



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**debritom<sup>+</sup>**  
micro water jet debridement

A good debridement is a requirement to kick start wound healing, however 19% of patients who receive wound debridement as an inpatient are readmitted to hospital within 30 days due to wound complications. For those over the age of 65, this rate rises to 25%, making failed wound healing the second highest reason for readmissions to hospital in the USA<sup>1</sup>.



For DFU patients, research has shown that between 41%<sup>2</sup> and 63% of patients require readmission, and most of these required a surgical intervention<sup>3</sup>. This is supported by an analysis of 30 day readmissions in patients following lower extremity bypass that showed that 17% of patients were readmitted due to wound management or graft failure and that these complications were strongly associated with subsequent limb loss<sup>4</sup>.

An analysis of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery patients undergoing debridement, showed that 12% needed to be readmitted due to wound complications<sup>5</sup>. Whilst for patients who have had vascular surgery, the most common cause for readmission following vascular surgery was related to wound complications, comprising approximately 30% of the entire readmission cohort<sup>6</sup>.

The per patient cost to the hospital of these failed debridement-related readmissions has been shown to range between was \$18,300<sup>6</sup> and \$50,000<sup>3</sup>.

The recent innovation of Micro Water Jet Technology offers a promising solution to these debridement-related complications. Due to the nature of the technology, the application of pressure on the wound can be modulated through the choice of type of hand piece and also by the distance and angle the hand piece is held from the wound<sup>7</sup>. This flexibility allows it to offer a gentle outpatient debridement or alternatively for stronger, surgical debridements in the OR.

Further, a recent study described how the use of Micro Water Jet Technology rather than other hydrosurgical debridement solutions could result in considerably lower overall costs. This same study also described how the use of Micro Water Jet Technology eliminated chronic infections in the wounds, reduced the duration of wound healing by 30%, and that there were no complications observed in these patients.



With wound complications being one of the main drivers for patient readmission, these data highlight how the adoption of Micro Water Jet Technology, could reduce hospital readmission rates, the overall cost of wound care, while improving the quality measures of the hospital.

## References

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