

# Training Module 3

## The Science of Negative Pressure Wound Therapy

PartnerFirst™ 

# Upon Completion Of This Module You Will Be Able To:

Define Negative Pressure Wound Therapy(NPWT)

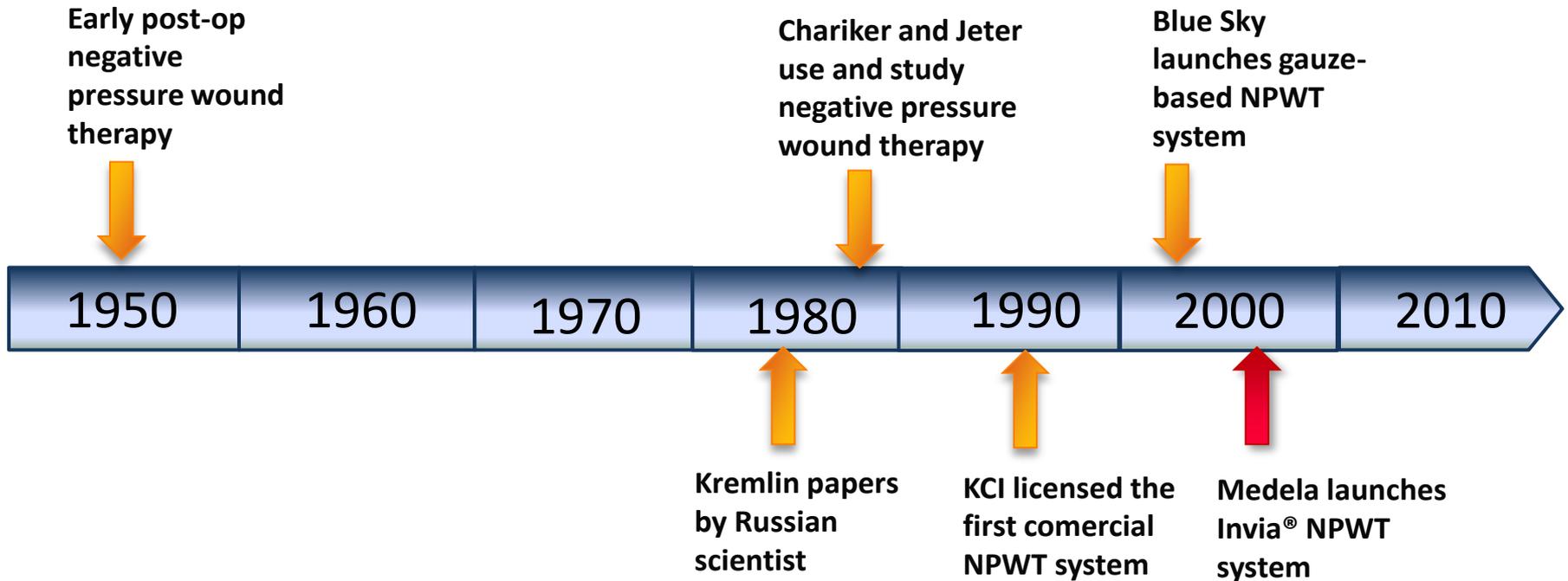
Describe the components of a NPWT system

Describe five effects NPWT has on the wound bed

Identify ten reported clinical benefits of NPWT

Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT) is the application of sub-atmospheric pressure to a wound to remove exudate and debris from the wound.<sup>1</sup>

# NPWT Developmental History



# Components of the NPWT System



NPWT pump with canister/tubing



Wound filler dressing



Transparent film dressing



Internal/External drain connecting  
dressing to pump

# Multiple Types of Wound Fillers



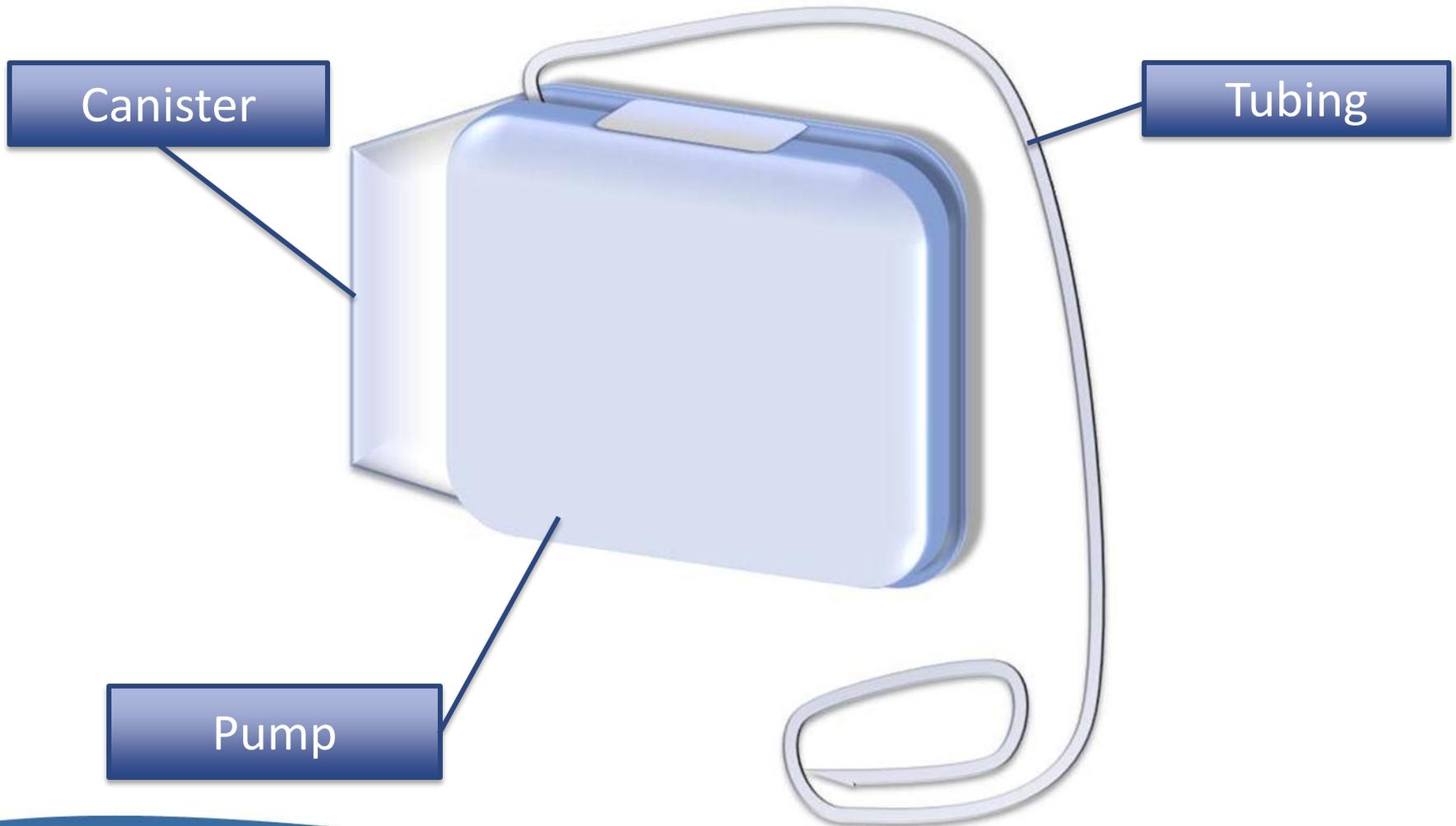
**Foam**



**Gauze**



# NPWT Pump



# NPWT Promotes Wound Healing By:

Removing  
wound  
exudate<sup>3</sup>

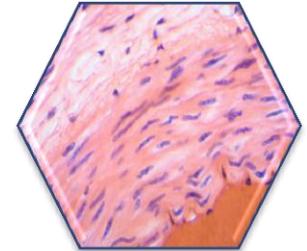
Promoting  
granulation  
tissue  
formation<sup>3</sup>

Removing  
infectious  
material from  
the wound<sup>6</sup>

Maintaining a  
moist wound  
environment<sup>2</sup>



Creates a moist wound environment<sup>2</sup>



Promotes perfusion<sup>3</sup>

Draws wound edges together<sup>2</sup>

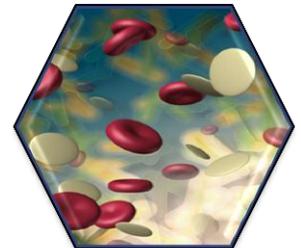
Effects of NPWT

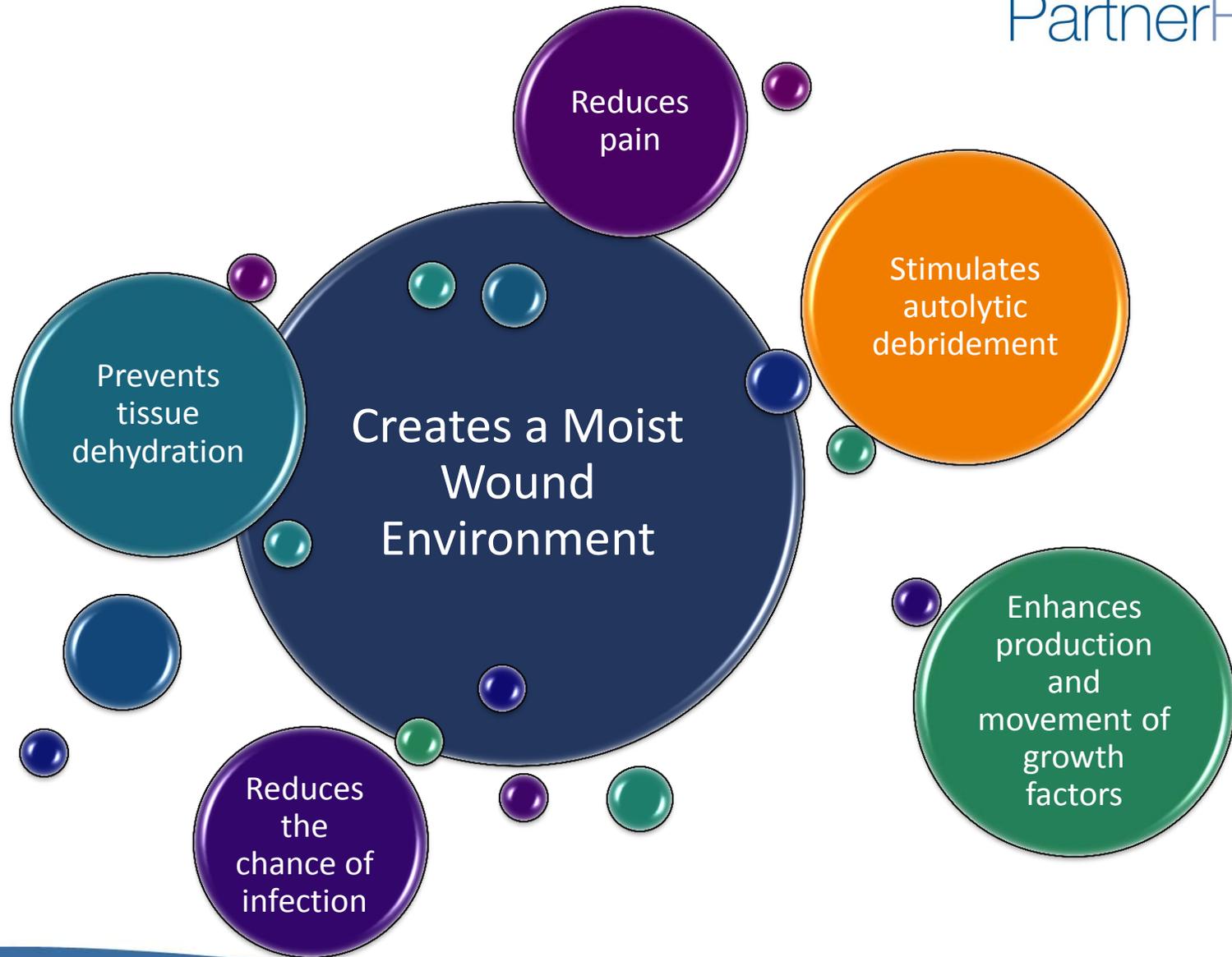
Removes exudate and reduces edema<sup>3</sup>

Removes potentially infectious material from the healing area<sup>3</sup>



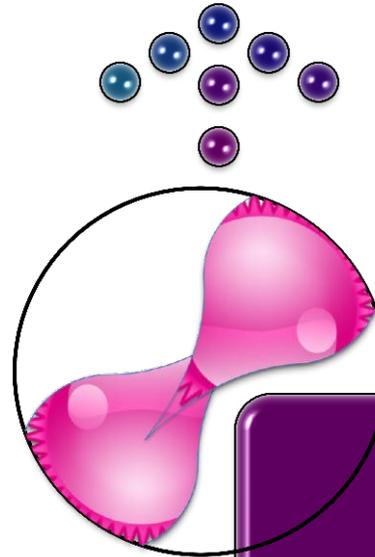
Promotes granulation tissue formation<sup>3</sup>





# NPWT- Physically Stimulates a Biologic Response

Mechanical stress has direct effects on cellular activity<sup>3</sup>

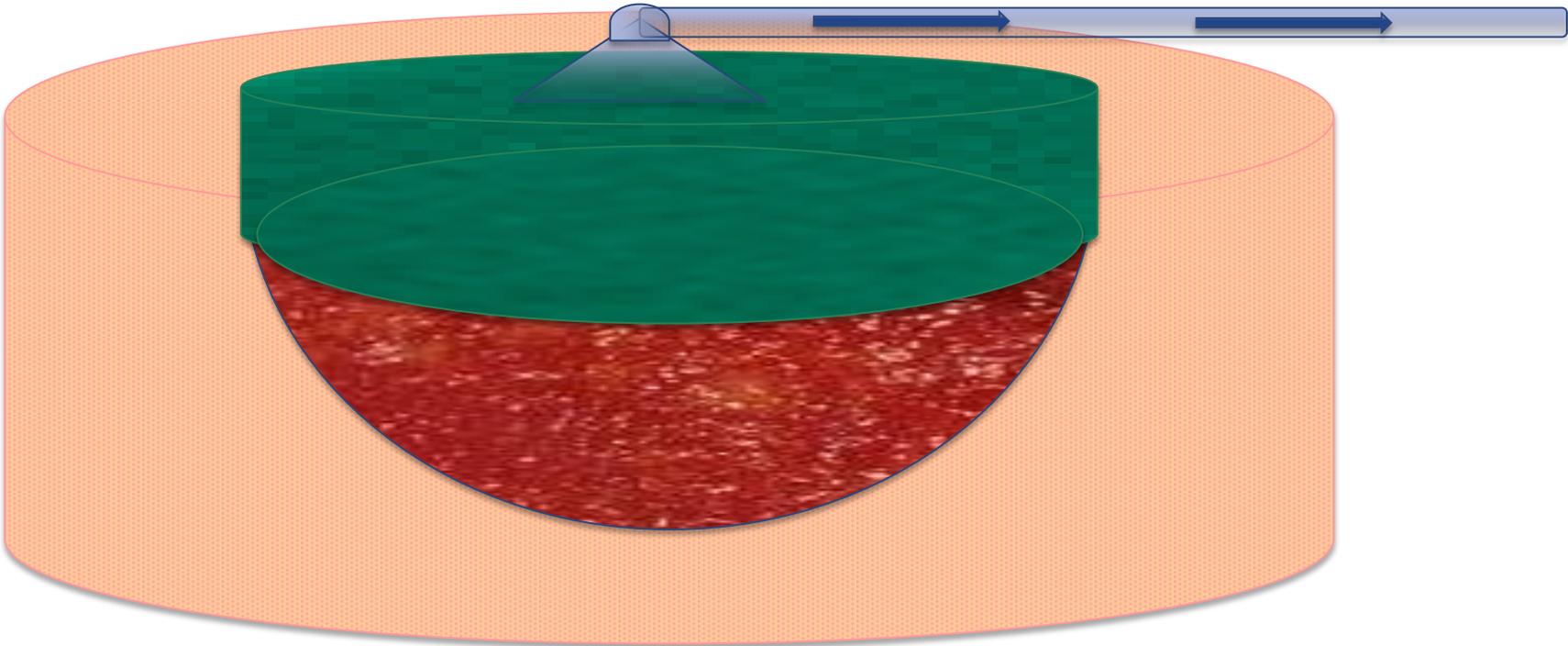


Micro-strain  
(3-D stress within cells)<sup>8</sup>



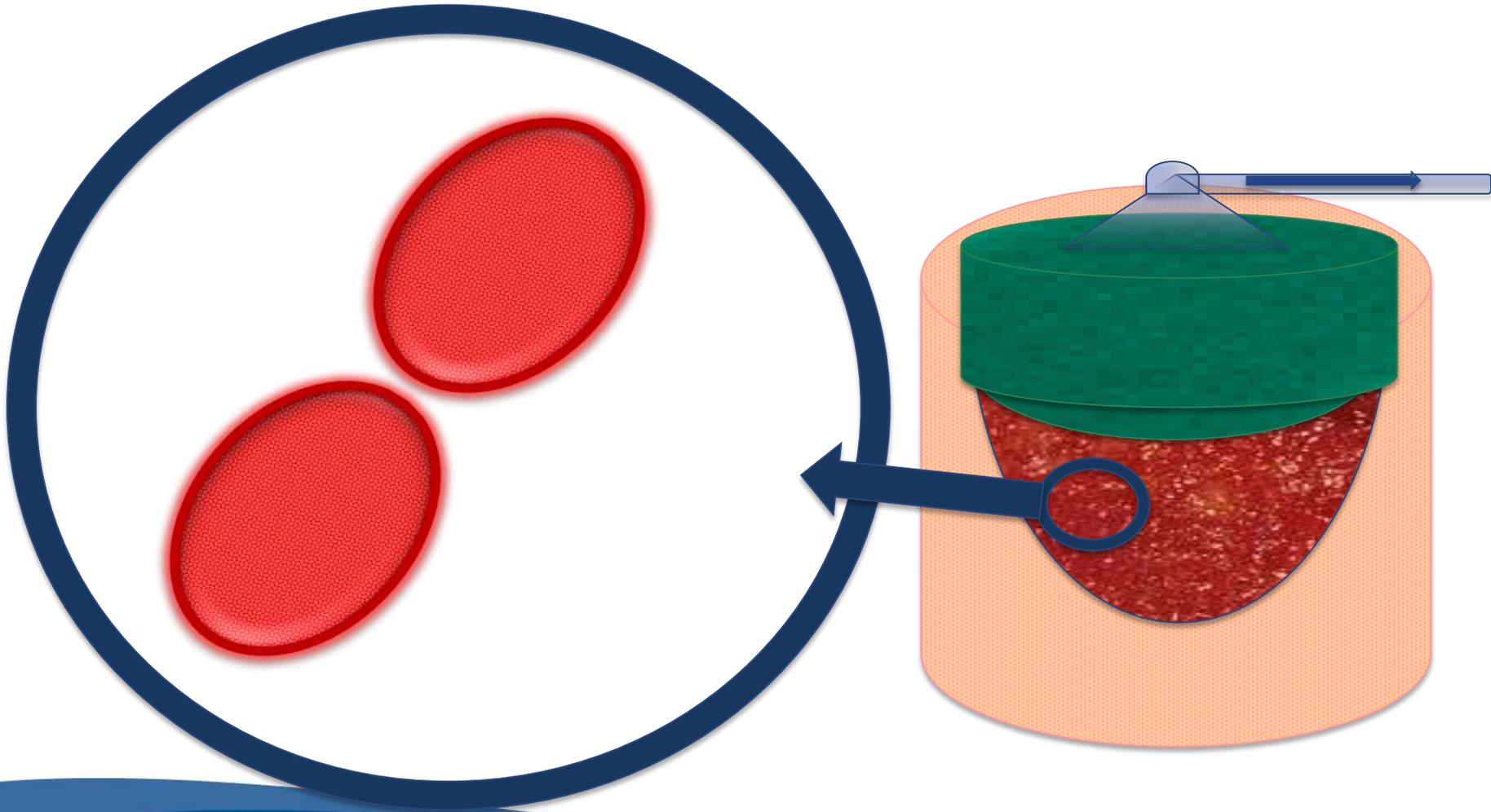
Macro-strain  
(stress across the wound)<sup>3</sup>

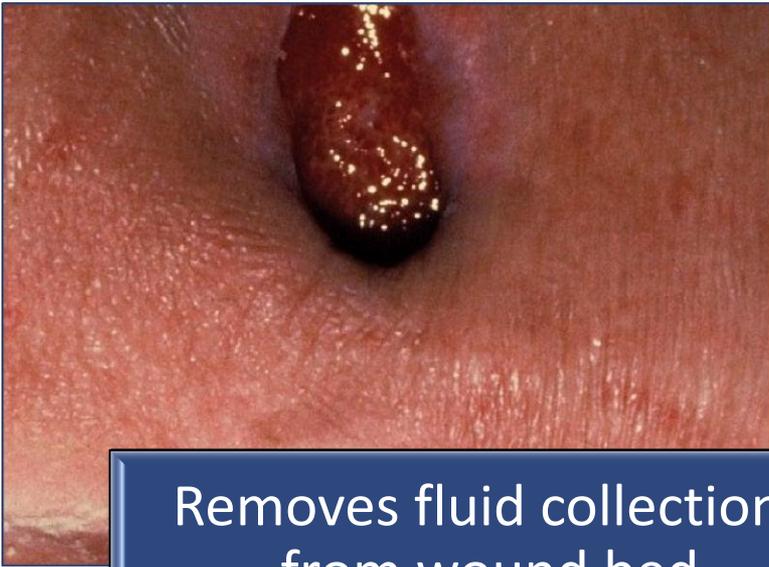
# NPWT- Draws The Wound Edges Together



# Micro-strain

Mechanical stress within the cell.  
Stimulates cell proliferation<sup>4</sup>





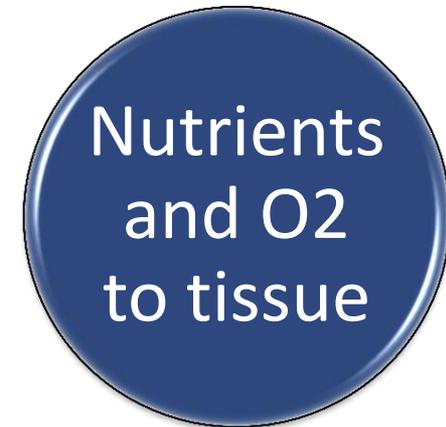
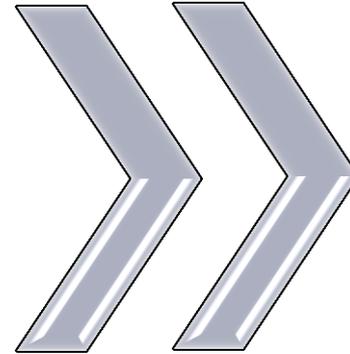
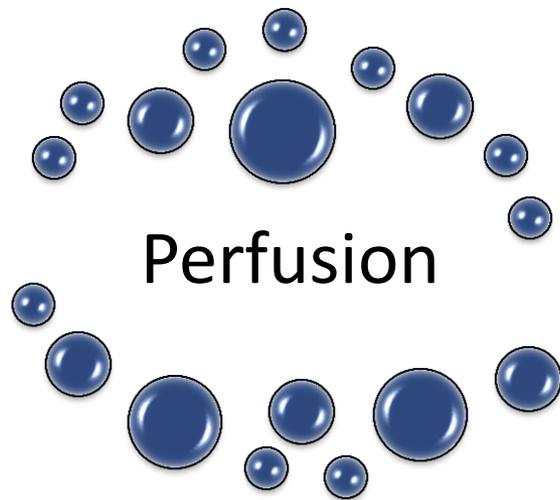
Removes fluid collections  
from wound bed



May reduce interstitial  
edema

Reduction of inflammatory agents contained in exudate<sup>8</sup>

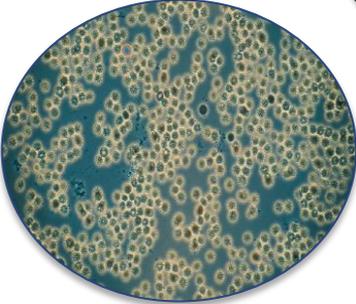
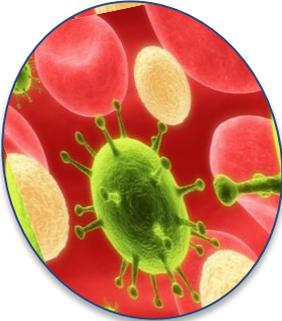
# NPWT May Increase Perfusion



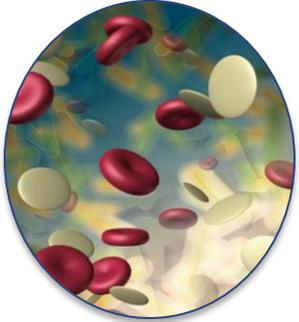
Multiple studies show increased blood flow to tissue<sup>3</sup>

**Perfusion:** the delivery of arterial blood, containing nutrients, O<sub>2</sub>, cells and growth factors, to tissue.

# NPWT May Help Control Bacterial Burden



Removes stagnant wound  
fluid



Improved blood perfusion  
may increase resistance to  
infection

Protection from external  
contamination

# NPWT Enhances Granulation Tissue Formation



Higher rates of granulation tissue reported with NPWT in porcine models<sup>3</sup>



The presence of granulation tissue signals healing<sup>3</sup>

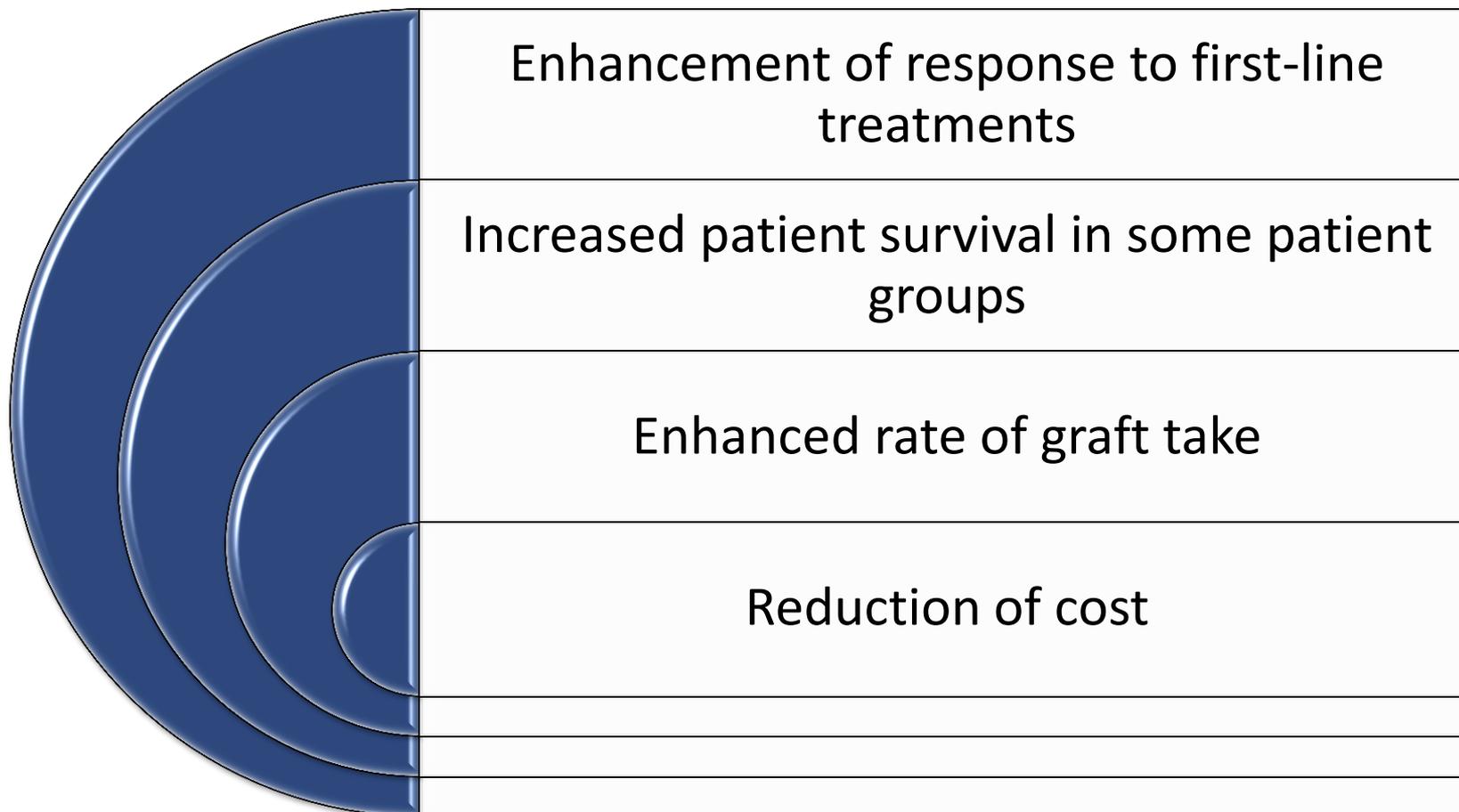
# Reported Clinical Evidence Supporting NPWT



Reduction of wound volume/size
Exudate is removed and edema reduced
Wound beds are more rapidly prepared
Faster wound healing
Decreased bioburden

(Hunter, 2007)

# Reported Clinical Evidence Supporting NPWT



(Hunter, 2007)

The science of NPWT must be understood to support the rationale for use in clinical practice

# References

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