

## Wellmont Holston Valley Orthopedic Surgery

- **Treatment of Postoperative Infection after Posterior Spinal Fusion and Instrumentation in a Patient with Neuromuscular Scoliosis**

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**ABSTRACT:** In the Literature, neuromuscular scoliosis patients have a higher rate of infection after spinal fusion. To date, no randomized controlled trail has been completed to assess the optimal treatment and related outcomes for patients with infections after posterior spinal fusion. Our purpose was to investigate the data and describe a single case report regarding the use of a V.A.C. devise as definitive treatment in a deep wound infection following posterior spinal fusion and instrumentation in a patient with neuromuscular scoliosis.

A 17 year-old female with progressive neuromuscular scoliosis underwent posterior spinal fusion with instrumentation and bone graft from T2 to sacrum without complication. One month after surgery, she presented with a draining wound. The patient began repeated surgical irrigation and debridement with subsequent utilization of a wound V.A.C. The wound V.A.C. was utilized for over two months until complete skin closure was obtained.

In this case, a deep polymicrobial wound infection was treated successfully and definitively with a wound V.A.C. This case report suggest good long-term results can be achieved with the use of a wound V.A.C. for definitive closure with the possible avoidance of other secondary surgeries requiring skin grafts or flaps for wound closure.

