

Reference (include title, author, journal title, year of publication, volume and issue, pages)	Evidence level (I-VII)	Key findings, outcomes or recommendations
Berg, H; Brands WG; Van Geldorp TR; Kluytmans-VandenBergh FQ; Kluytmans JA. (2000). Comparison Between Closed Drainage Techniques for the Treatment of Postoperative Mediastinitis. <i>The Annals of Thoracic Surgery</i> . 70: 924-929	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comparison between a continuous irrigation system and vacuum drainage system. - Continuous irrigation involved irrigation with 2L of 0.5% povidone-iodine solution per 24hrs and at the same time an equal amount is drained with a little suction. - Vacuum drainage system involved attaching a drainage bottle with strong negative pressure -300 to -600mmHg - Specific ages not identified, but population consisted of 60 patients who had developed mediastinitis post open heart surgery, 29 who were treated with continuous irrigation and 31 with vacuum drainage. - Results found that treatment failure was more than three times as likely in the continuous irrigation group, and total hospital stay was significantly longer.
Durai, R and Philip, C. (2010). Surgical Vacuum Drains: Types, uses and complications. <i>AORN</i> . 91(2): 266-271	VII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informative article primarily directed at perioperative nurses describing high and low pressure vacuum drains - Article discusses: Use of Drains, Drain insertion, reinstating vacuum pressure for high pressure vacuum drains, Drain removal and Complications of vacuum drains.
Meyerson, J (2016). A Brief History of Two Common Surgical Drains. <i>Annals of Plastic Surgery</i> , 77(1): 4-5.	VII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informative article discussing the similarities and differences between Blake and Jackson-Pratt drains

<p>Newcomb, A; Alphonso N; Norgaad M; Cochrane A; Karl T; Brizard C (2005). High-vacuum drains rival conventional underwater-seal drains after pediatric heart surgery. <i>European Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery</i>. 27: 395-400</p>	<p>II</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comparison between High-vacuum (redivac) drains and conventional underwater seal drains attached to low-pressure wall suction. - 478 paediatric patients post cardiac surgery were involved, 237 were allocated to the redivac group, 241 were allocated to the conventional drain group. - Results found that high-vacuum redivac drains are as safe and effective as conventional drains in the pediatric setting, and resulted in a lower incidence of residual pleural effusions requiring drainage.
<p>Paddle, A; Elahi, M and Newcomb, A (2009). Retained foreign body following pleural drainage with a small-bore catheter</p>	<p>IV</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This article reports a case of a retained foreign body related to drainage of a pleural effusion with a small bore Pleurocath drain. - It highlights the need for all staff to be familiar with the normal appearance of equipment being utilized in the ward and to report when incomplete removal of drain equipment is suspected.
<p>Salvatore, A; Mignosa, C; Gitto, P; Santo Trimarchi, E; Ciccarello, G; Salvo, D; Trimarchi, G (2006). A method for chest drainage after pediatric cardiac surgery: A prospective randomized trial. <i>The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery</i>, 131(6): 1306-1309</p>	<p>II</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A study evaluating the clinical safety of Blake drains compared to conventional chest drains in a pediatric population after cardiac surgery. - Blake drains are small, soft, flexible, silicone drains with a solid, non-collapsible core center. Whereas conventional chest drains are described large-bore semi rigid tubes connected to a closed underwater sealed drainage system. - The study concluded that blake drains were safer and more efficient than conventional chest tubes. Blake drains showed fewer occurrences of effusions and the same amount of fluid drained but smaller size and earlier removal.
<p>Surimex Postoperative Wound Drainage Training Manual Summary. www.surimex.com.au</p>	<p>VII</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surimex is a distributor for Australia & New Zealand devices, including wound drainage bottles. This webpage provides details on its products and instructions regarding drain placement, drain handling, changing bottle and removal of drain.
<p>Pfm medical Redon Drains – Low Vacuum and High Vacuum Drainage. www.pfmmedical.com</p>	<p>VII</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provides details of Redon Drains including connection tube, vacuum pressure, bottle size and ordering information.

