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Vacuum Assisted Closure in the Management of Diabetic Foot Ulcers for Managed Care Patients

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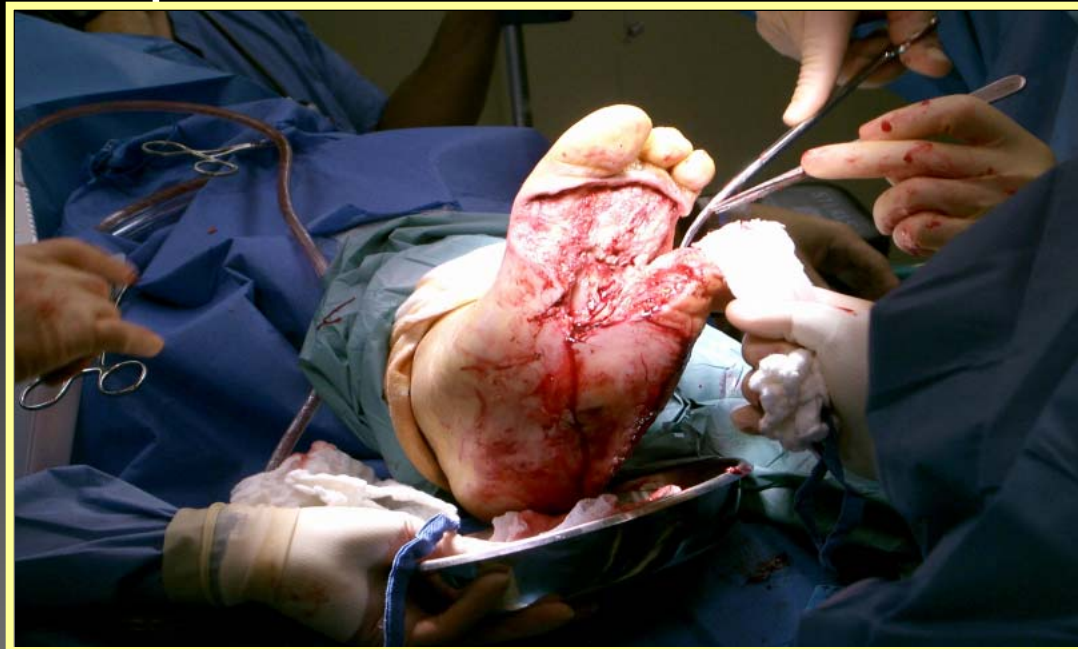
Clinical Problem

- Diabetic Foot Ulcers
- Increase Morbidity
- \$7 billion/year
- increasing 10% yearly
- antibiotic resistance
- prolonged care



Goal of Diabetic Foot Ulcer Management

- Create an environment that is conducive to normal and timely healing
 - immune system mount immune response
 - medical problems assessed & treated



Goal of Diabetic Foot Ulcer Management

- Limb sparing procedures
 - that result in cessation of osteomyelitis,
 - soft tissue coverage
 - stabilization of Charcot neuroarthropathy,
 - healing of ulceration
 - maintenance of a biological prosthesis with partial foot amputations

77% of >55 yrs old undergoing amputation in USA do not return to independent living

Objective

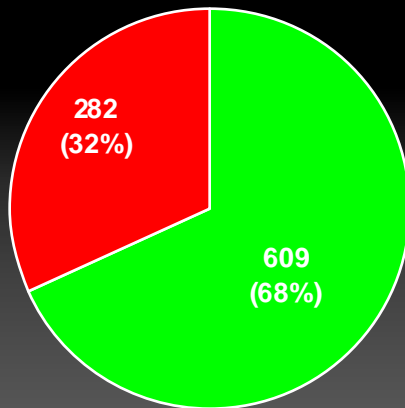
- Retrospective review over three years
- Diabetic Foot Ulcers
- V.A.C. Therapy
- Asses Efficacy



Demographics

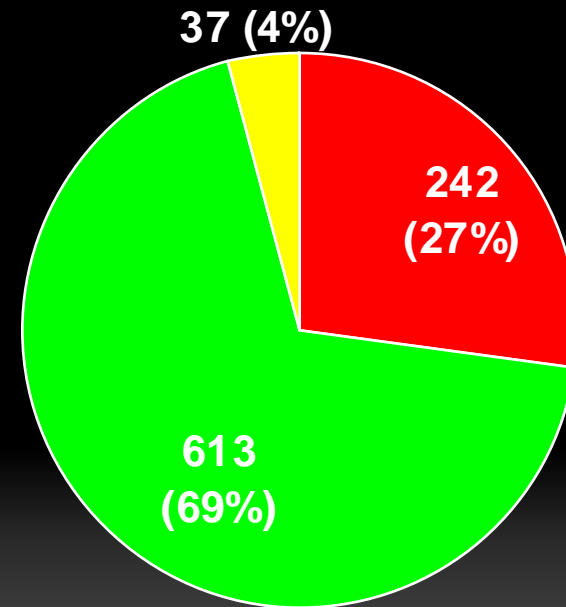
- 891 patients
- Majority male
- Median age 56 years

Gender



Male Female

Age Range



21-50 yrs 50-75 yrs >75 yrs

Methods

- Inclusion Criteria:
 - Treatment with V.A.C. Therapy between January 1, 2004 and Sept 30, 2006
 - Existing Diabetic Foot Ulcer
 - At least 1 foot wound
 - No underlying osteomyelitis



Methods

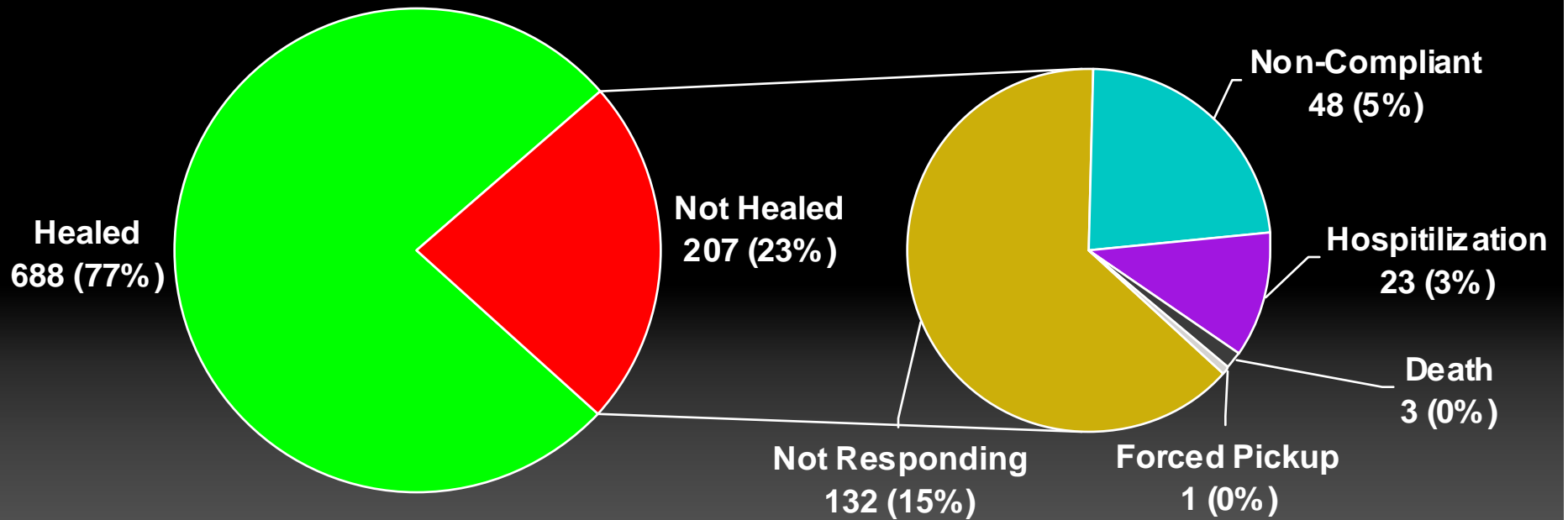
- Endpoints
 - Healing rate: complete closure
 - Length of Treatment
 - Complications or Adverse Events



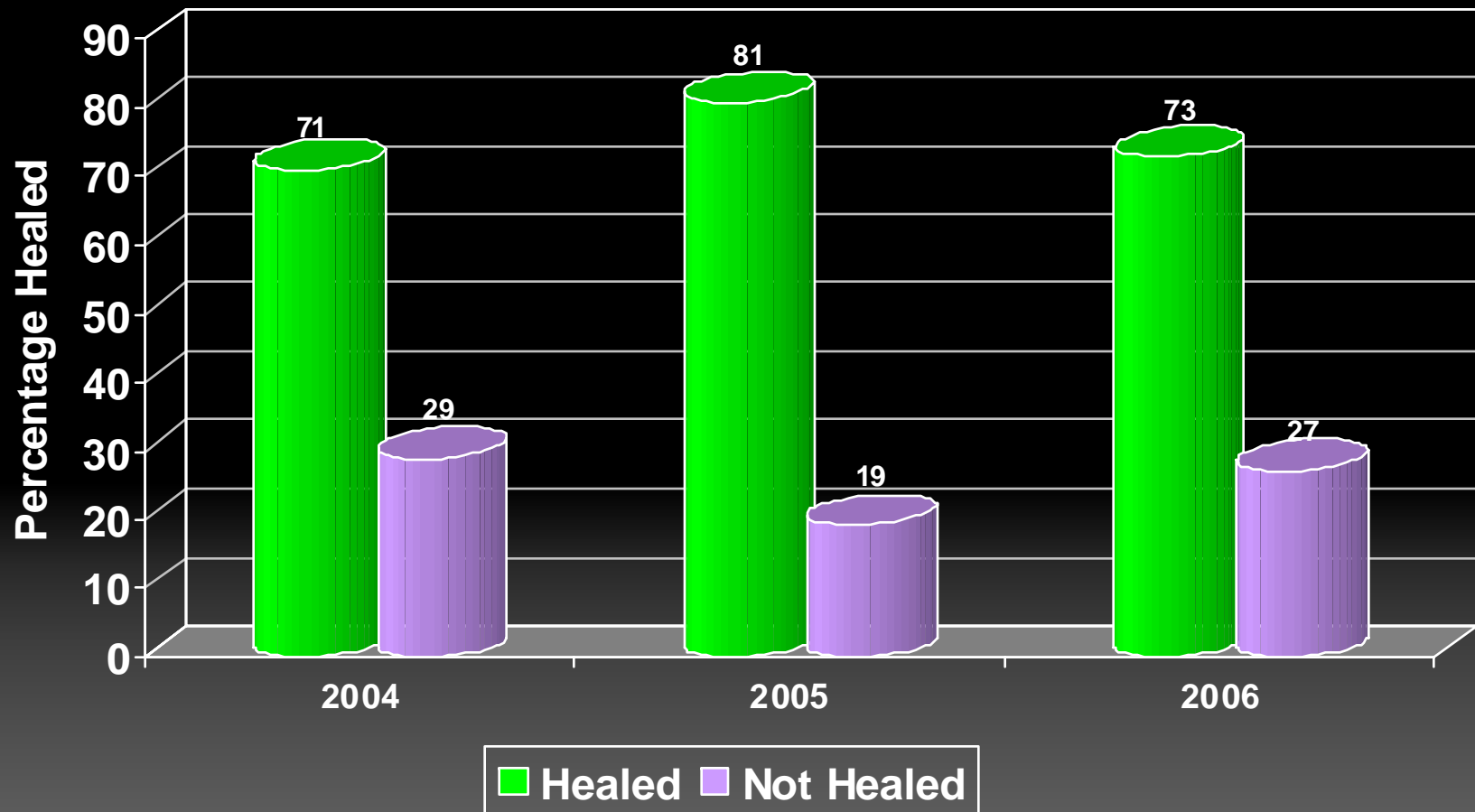
Methods

- Statistics
 - Demographics and clinical outcomes are expressed as:
 - Percent (%) – Categorical variables
 - Median – Continuous variables

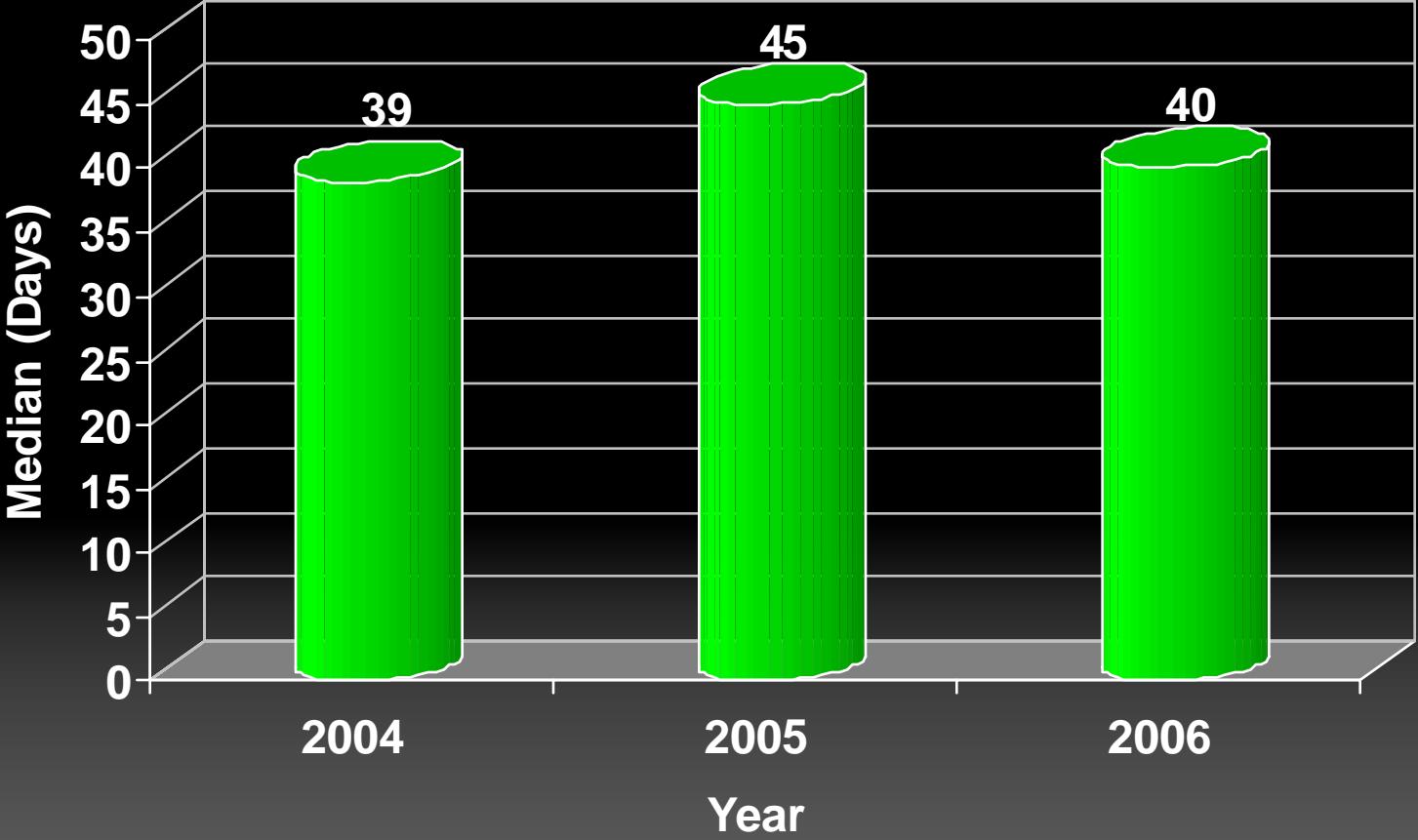
Percent Healed



Percentage Healed by Year

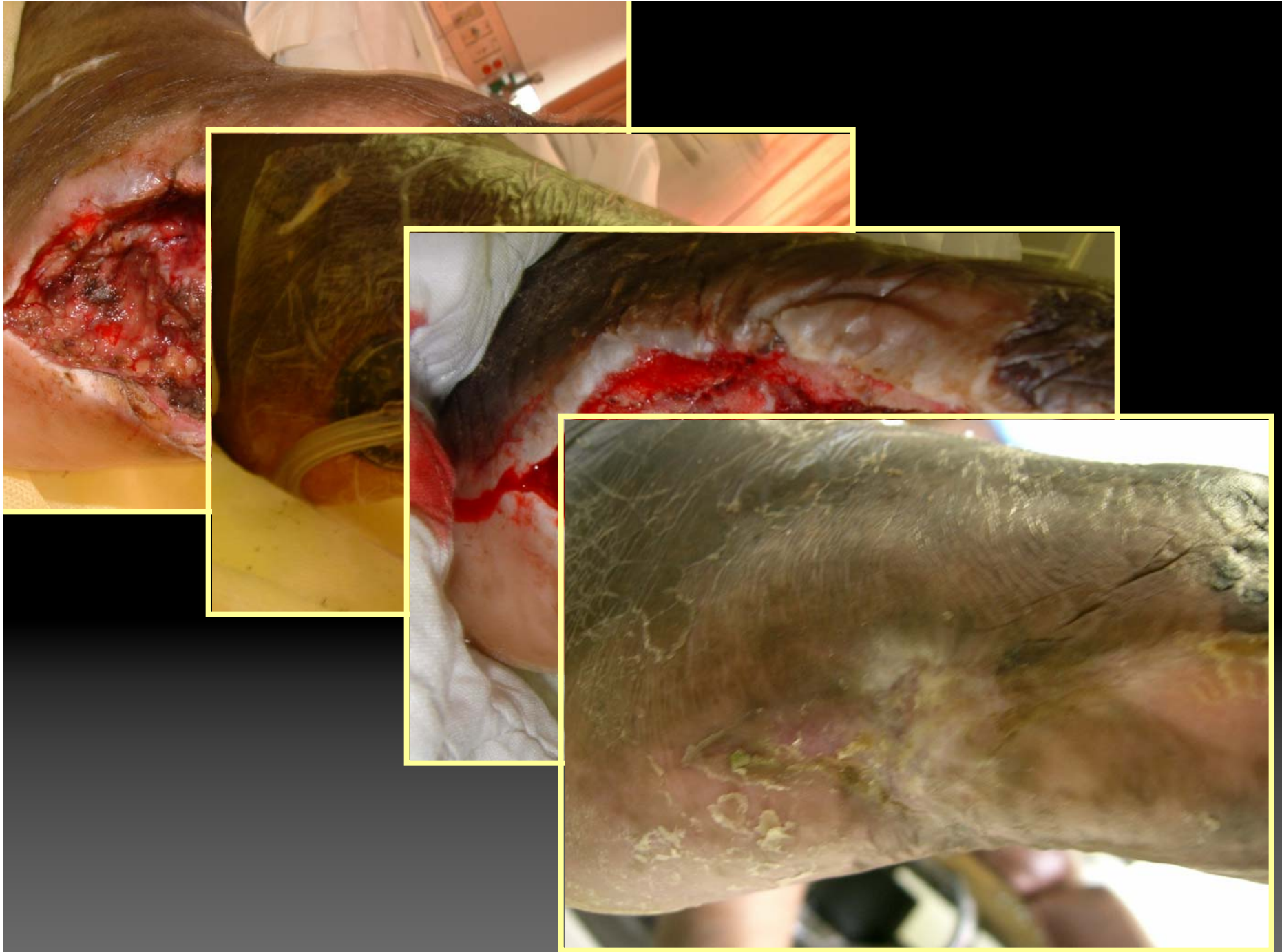


Median Length of Treatment



Summary

- V.A.C. Therapy effective
 - in healing more than 80% of the treated wounds over a 3 year period
 - in the treatment of variety of anatomical wounds from different etiologies
- Highest healing rates were observed among patients from 50-75 years of age (77.5%)



Conclusion

- VAC Therapy
 - can be safely used in this difficult to treat population
 - is an effective treatment option for diabetic foot ulcers for a managed care patient population