

BDCFT Overarching Wound Care Pathway

To be used in conjunction with Tissue Viability policy and approved BDCFT guidance to be found in [Tissue Viability - Home](#)

Initial Holistic Assessment: - Review patient factors, comorbidities, medications, nutrition, mobility.
(Complete generic wound template in S1 identifying and considering risk factors)

- Wound assessment: type, size, depth, exudate, infection risk, pain, psychological wellbeing
- Identify red flags (ischemia, severe infection, suspected malignancy).



Classification & Triage: (complete appropriate S1 template)

- Categorise wound type: pressure ulcer (categorise, report and refer), venous/arterial leg ulcer, diabetic foot ulcer, surgical wound.
- Decide if care remains in community or needs escalation to MDT (Podiatry/Tissue Viability/Vascular/Dermatology/GP).



Treatment & Management:

- Apply TIMES principle during assessment (Tissue, Infection, Moisture, Edge Surrounding skin).
- Select evidence-based dressings (<https://www.bdct.nhs.uk/wound-management-guidelines-and-formulary/>)
- Address underlying causes (e.g. underlying disease, offloading, glycaemic control).
- Use **appropriate clinical pathway e.g.** Lower limb pathway [Tissue Viability - Home](#)



Monitoring & Review: (Document in appropriate S1 template/Care plans)

- Minimum reassessment every 4 weeks. (More frequently if treating infection, deterioration)
- If wound remains unhealed at 4 weeks · No sign of progression to healing refer to TV team, slow or delayed healing seek senior clinician support/safety huddle.
- If wound remains unhealed at 8 weeks · Review again; escalate as before if no improvement, consider MDT.
- If wound remains unhealed at 12 weeks · Refer to Tissue Viability Service.

Escalation & Referral:

- **Immediate referral for severe infection, suspected malignancy, vascular compromise.**
- Follow advice given and follow up if any delays in a referral or escalate through safety huddle or MDT (See links).

MDT involvement for complex wounds (vascular, podiatry, tissue viability).

- TV [Bookings - - Outlook](#)
- Podiatry. [Podiatry Wound Care Digital Clinic](#)
- Vascular digital clinic claire.webb@bdct.nhs.uk
- Well Leg Service (via S1 record- for healed leg ulcers)