

WOUND MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

Winter 2024: Volume 2 / Issue 2

WOUND INFECTIONS

Most wound and skin infections relate to streptococcal and staphylococcal infections

Refer to Wound hygiene, infection and antimicrobial guide

If standard antibiotics not taking effect by 3 days SWAB 'The Levine technique'

Revisit patient co-morbidities & if leg ulcer ensure using optimum compression

WINTER AND WOUNDS

Cold weather worsens blood flow which will result in less oxygen to wounds making healing slower and more susceptible to wound infections. Cold, flu and other winter ailments which affect the frail elderly the most will also impact on developing wounds. Pressure ulcers are more common as people are less mobile, if unwell or too cold to go out. When central heating is in use, the skin often becomes dry, it is more of a challenge to keep hydrated which leads to more fragile skin. It is crucial to ensure those vulnerable are kept warm, orally hydrated, good skin care meaning well moisturised skin to prevent skin from cracking and to restore the skin barrier, additionally mobility encouraged.

NEW GUIDELINES & PATHWAYS

- Wound hygiene, infection and antimicrobial guide
- Lower limb compression decision too

Use this link to access wound management **TeamsNet page**, it has all the local guidance and extensive information relating to wounds

[Surrey Heartlands Wound Management](#)

"Please support in Antimicrobial stewardship, reducing life-threatening infections by using appropriate wound hygiene methods & early infection management by encouraging non-medicated antimicrobial dressings"

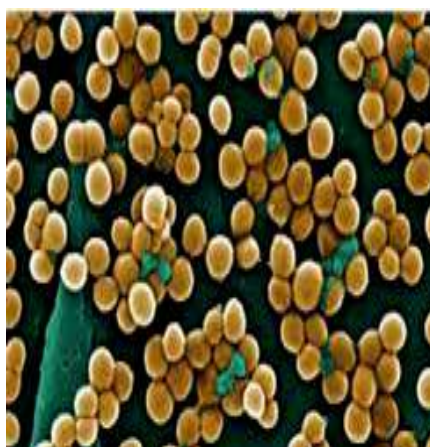
DID YOU KNOW?

Free dressing samples and other products must not be accepted from Company Reps for "trial use" on your patients or clients. If free samples are used, you would take personal responsibility and accountability. There are procedures to follow to evaluate dressings that are not on formulary as samples may not be safe to use on patients. Get in touch with Wound Management teams for more information. <syheartlandsicb.surreywounds@nhs.net>

WOUND FORMULARY / ONPOS CHANGES

There are new Wound formulary / ONPOS Webinars 30-minute sessions after Area prescribing Committee meeting to update all clinicians delivering wound care to notify of any changes to dressings formulary / ONPOS. Contact Wound management email to be added to invite. Contact syheartlandsicb.surreywounds@nhs.net for invitation

National guidance recommends formulary compliance, this gives a standard of practice in each NHS organisation, by using a bulk order system like Onpos / NHSSC there is less wastage, and dressings are readily available to use. Categories wise, there is a great selection of antimicrobial's, foams, absorbents, skin tear products which covers majority wound types. Prescriptions should only be requested in exceptional circumstances to treat atypical wounds and under specialist guidance as per FP10 prescribing principles [Dressings on FP10 - prescribing principles for primary care - December 2021.pdf](#)



Staphylococcus infection

In Oct - Dec 2024 SWMFG changes had been agreed and presented to the Area prescribing committee Changes to wound products available ONPOS. The following are new and /or replacement products:

- ☐ 365 polyurethane foam non-border
- ☐ Profore WCL-to be used when Atrauman not suitable
- ☐ Flaminal Forte-post Pilondial sinus surgery only
- ☐ Kliniderm silicone adhesive border-replaced biatain silicone

WOUND UPDATES

A rare dermatological condition: What is Hidradenitis suppurativa:

Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) is an incurable, debilitating chronic skin disease, reported to affect 1-4% of the general population with disease onset occurring typically in young adulthood. It often causes deep set skin lesions, abscesses, sinus tracks and irreversible skin damage. Patients need to be under the care of dermatology and HS clinics to ensure optimum treatment is provided. HydraWear may be recommended, it is the only HS-specific wearable wound care system available, intended for home use by patients who change their own dressings. This must be under the guidance of HS clinics and are not usually provided for those with mild HS. HydraWear on an individual patient basis following assessment in the Secondary Care HS clinic would be the only indication. The garment requires monitoring of effectiveness and measuring to guarantee fit. [Microsoft Word - Position Statement - Prescribing HydraWear FINAL.docx](#)

***Please do not use Hidrawear for other conditions – use needs to be under guidance of hidradenitis clinic or Dermatology**

Please let Wound Management Team know:

- ☐ If you need bigger size of dressing on formulary
- ☐ If there is change in your base name
- ☐ Missed items or missing full delivery needs to be reported within 3 working days of the delivery
- ☐ Update contact details for ONPOS account holders (email address/leavers)
- ☐ Feedback on Newsletter and suggest topics of interest

ONPOS Caps on amounts ordered & Justifications for antimicrobials have been implemented:

- ☐ Orders with repeated lack of reasoning may be cancelled
- ☐ Caps are extremely generous, if you need more, please get in touch with Wound management and this can be sorted for you

Epimax alert:

Epimax Ointment and Epimax Paraffin-Free Ointment can harm the eyes if used on the face. Do not prescribe these ointments for use on the face. Tell patients to wash their hands and avoid touching their eyes after using these products. [Epimax Ointment and Epimax Paraffin-Free Ointment: reports of ocular surface toxicity and ocular chemical injury - GOV.UK](#)

NHSSC delivery schedule & closures for Christmas

Input Date	Delivery Date	Comments
Thursday 19 th December	Monday 23 rd December	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Friday 20 th December	Tuesday 24 th December	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Monday 23 rd December	Friday 27 th December	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Tuesday 24 th December	Monday 30 th December	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Wednesday 25th December	Closed for ordering and delivery	Closed
Thursday 26th December	Closed for ordering and delivery	Closed
Friday 27 th December	Tuesday 31 st December	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Monday 30 th December	Thursday 2 nd January	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Tuesday 31 st December	Friday 3 rd January	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter
Wednesday 1st January	Closed for ordering and delivery	Closed
Thursday 2 nd January	Monday 6 th January	As normal, or next scheduled delivery date thereafter

WOUND MANAGEMENT

Contacts:

Medicines Optimisation Team-MRU

Samantha Lane

Ksenija Markovic

email us

@syheartlandsicb.surreywounds@nhs.net

or

Phone 0300 561 1552 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm)

Medicine resource unit wound management team:

If you are passionate about wounds, would like to be part of WMFG and are interested in making crucial decisions in wound care, please get in touch.

Meeting run every 2-3 months, this is a working group and commitment to attend regular is expected.

Useful links:

[ONPOS - Online Non Prescription Ordering Service](#)

[Surrey Heartlands Wound Management \(clarity.co.uk\)](http://clarity.co.uk)

[Guidelines : Wound management \(res-systems.net\)](http://res-systems.net)

[Dressings on FP10 - prescribing principles for primary care - December 2021.pdf.](#)

SURREY HEARTLANDS

Surrey Heartlands is a GP-led organisation, responsible for planning and buying health services for the local population out of a budget of around £1.5 billion.

This includes care from hospitals, community and mental health services, social care, ambulance services and other providers. To do this we work closely with other local health and care providers to make sure people in our area have the support they need.

Surrey Heartlands has around one million in population across the boroughs & districts



Varicose veins