

Pathway for Epithelialisation Wounds

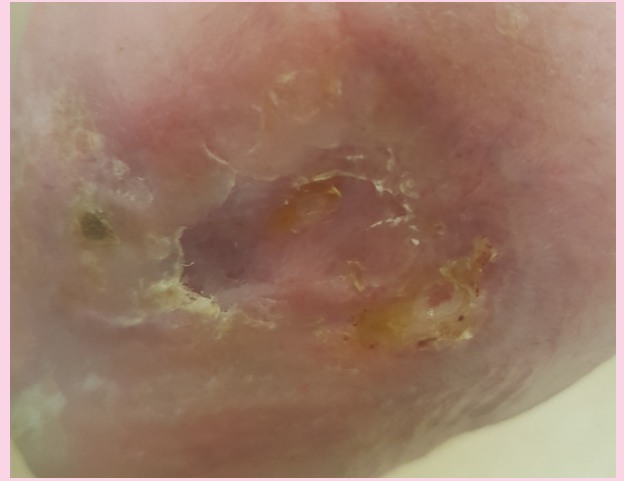
Aim: - To promote epithelialisation and wound maturation.

Definition:

Epithelialisation is the final stage of wound healing, during which epithelial cells (new skin cells) migrate across the wound surface to cover it.

Epithelial tissue appears as pale pink/white and is very delicate and fragile. Care is needed when cleansing the wound and removing dressings in order to prevent skin stripping and shearing damage. (Nichols, E. Wound Essentials 2015).

NB Emollients, barrier protectants and transparent films can be used to protect newly formed epithelisation tissue as per the local formulary.



Step 1: Undertake wound cleansing in accordance with the Wound Cleansing Policy and consider using Prontosan Debridement pad to support soft mechanical debridement.

Step 2: Undertake a holistic wound assessment in order to determine the type of wound exudate levels and establish the dressing options.

Step 3: Dress the wound following the below recommendations per the local formulary:

Exudate Levels	Primary Dressing	Secondary Dressing	Application advice
Nil	Emollients, barrier protectants and transparent films can be used to protect newly formed epithelisation tissue as per the local formulary.	NA	As per manufacturing institutions.
Low to Moderate	Comfeel Plus	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply a hydrocolloid to the wound ensuring a 1cm border from the wound margins.
Heavy.	Reassess as wound is unlikely to be epithelialising and refer to the appropriate pathway.	NA	NA

Step 4: Document all wound assessments accordingly and complete onward referrals if required.

Has there been an improvement in the last 14 days?



NO →

Ensure a referral has been completed:

- DBTH inpatient to The Skin Integrity Team
- Commuality Tier 1 or 2 to Community Tier 3
- Community Tier 3/District Nurses to TVALS
- Community patients with a Diabetic Foot Ulcer to The Podiatry Foot Protection Service.

Step 5: Reassess as per dressing application advice.

If the named product on this pathway is not available a temporary second line product is available to use. This can be found within the main text of the Doncaster Wide Wound Care Formulary Document.