

Pathway for Well Legs

Definition: Patients with healed venous/mixed leg ulcers (National Wound Care Strategy 2020)

Aim: To prevent reoccurrence of venous/mixed leg ulcers and maintain skin integrity.

RED FLAGS:

Broken skin/Wet legs/Red legs or Cellulitis	Follow The Lower Leg Wound Pathway.
Poor fitting garments	Primary Care Refer to TVALS. Secondary Care Refer to The Skin Integrity Team.
Suspected Acute Deep Vein Thrombosis	Primary Care Urgent referral to Ambulatory Care Unit at DRI. Secondary Care Follow the Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) - Prevention and Treatment of VTE in patients admitted to hospital - PAT/T 44 V3.
Poor application technique (Which can lead to further tissue damage).	Consider garment applicators if unable to apply.
Suspected deterioration in arterial blood flow (Remove any garments and follow the Safe Soft Bandage Pathway).	Primary Care - Refer urgently to TVALS for the Lower Limb Assessment Pathway to be undertaken. Secondary Care - Refer to the Vascular Team.



Step	Primary Care	Secondary care
1	Advise the patient/carer to wash the legs with a pH neutral soap or soap substitute.	Wash the legs daily with a pH neutral soap or soap substitute.
2	Advise the patient/carer to inspect the skin daily.	Inspect the skin daily as a minimum.
3	Advise the patient/carer to apply daily emollient as per the emollient policy.	Apply emollient daily as per the emollient policy.
4	If the patient has compression garments that are in date (as per Lower Limb Assessment Pathway Appendix 3) continue with this, otherwise apply 2 layers of tubular bandage toe to knee.	If the patient has compression garments that are in date (as per Lower Limb Assessment Pathway Appendix 3) continue with this, otherwise apply 2 layers of tubular bandage toe to knee.
5	If the patient has out of date compression garments (as per Lower Limb Assessment Pathway Appendix 3) or you have been using 2 layers of tubular bandage toe to knee refer to Tier 3 service District Nurse for a Lower Limb Assessment to be undertaken.	If the patient has out of date compression garments (as per Lower Limb Assessment Pathway Appendix 3) or you have been using 2 layers of tubular bandage toe to knee refer to Tier 3 service District Nurse on discharge for a Lower Limb Assessment to be undertaken.

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.