





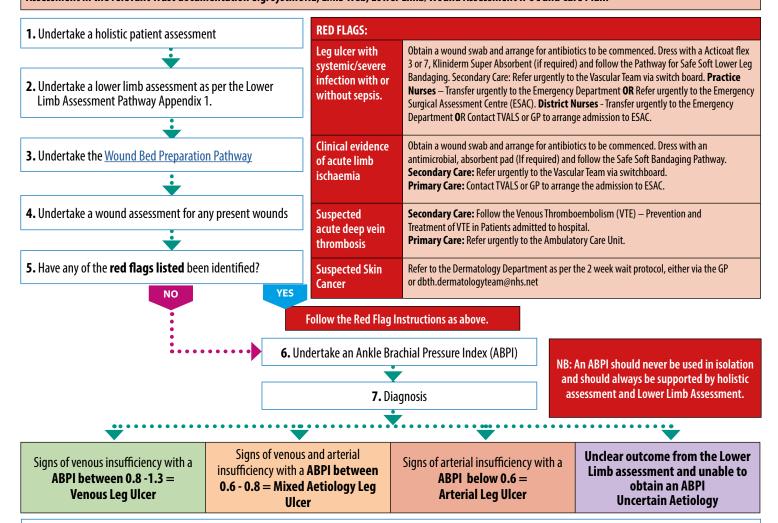




Lower Limb Assessment Pathway (Tier 3/4 and District Nurses)

Aim: Assessment of peripheral perfusion is a fundamental requirement for lower limb management (Vowden and Vowden, 2001). Compression should be first-line treatment to optimise healing and can benefit patients in both acute and chronic wound management (Wounds UK, 2015). Compression treatment should be started as early as possible following a Lower Limb Assessment, including an Ankle Brachial Pressure Index (ABPI) reading.

The Lower Limb Assessment Pathway Appendix 1 outlines what information is required to be captured in each assessment section. Document the Lower Limb Assessment in the relevant Trust documentation e.g. systmONE, EMIS Web, Lower Limb/Wound Assessment IPOC and Care Plan.



8a. Treatment Primary and Secondary dressings

- If no wounds are present follow your local emollient guidance.
- If a wound is present with 50% or more granulation and signs of venous, mixed, or uncertain aetiology apply Urgo Start Plus Contact/Pad (and a Kliniderm Super Absorbent if required).
- If a wound is present 50% or more slough/devitalised tissue and signs of venous or mixed leg ulceration apply Urgo Start Plus Pad.
- If a wound is present and the patient has signs of an arterial linsufficiency and/or there are signs of a wound infection apply Acticoat flex 3 or 7 (and a Kliniderm Super Absorber if required).

8b. Treatment Compression and Bandage Treatment **Commence 40mmHg compression** Commence 20mmHg compression Follow the Pathway for Safe Soft Follow the Pathway for <u>Safe Soft</u> (as per Appendix 2) (as per Appendix 2) **Lower Leg Bandaging Lower Leg Bandaging** 9. Onward referrals To be managed by a District Nurse To be managed by a District Nurse or Tier 3 /4 service. or Tier 3 /4 service. **Urgent referral** Refer to TVALS. Refer new diagnosis to the **Refer to the Vascular Team** to the Vascular Team Vascular Team within 2 weeks. within 2 weeks.

10. Arrange a follow up for a repeat Lower Limb Assessment as per the Appendix 3.

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.