APRIL NEWSLETTER

National Wound Care Strategy Programme
Excellence. Every Patient. Every Time.

The National Wound Care Strategy Programme has been commissioned by NHS England and NHS Improvement to develop recommendations to support the prevention and care of pressure ulcers, lower limb ulcers and surgical wounds. People with wounds, carers, suppliers and health and care professionals can stay up to date with our Easter newsletter.

TRANSFORMING WOUND CARE

The AHSN Network has adopted lower leg wound care as a national adopt and spread programme (to be named Transforming Wound Care). Six AHSNs will commence the programme in April and the remaining nine will commence in Q4 of 2023.

IMPROVING LOWER LIMB CARE BLOG

Dr Una Adderley introduces the National Wound Care Strategy Programme in the latest **AHSN Network blog**, and explains how better wound care can help create capacity to deal with the challenges of Covid.

LOWER LIMB FORUM

The forum now has around 80 members from just under 70 different organisations.

Positive feedback was received from the "Pathways and Service Re-design" event held on 22.02.22 and the Education event held on 04.04.22. At the February event, two First Tranche Implementation Sites (Hull and Wye Valley) presented their approaches in clinical practice to this topic and at the April event, the Livewell Southwest First Tranche Implementation Site presented their approach to workforce education. Digital, Data and Information (DDI) will be the theme for the Lower Limb Forum event in June.

The Lower Limb Forum is hosted on the FutureNHS platform and interested healthcare provider organisations are welcome to join!

FIRST TRANCHE IMPLEMENTATION SITES

We are continuing to work with the First Tranche Implementation Sites to understand the challenges of implementing the NWCSP Lower Limb Recommendations for Clinical Care and to develop supporting education and data resources for those working in lower limb services. More information about the seven sites can be found on the **NWCSP website.**

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE

Two new online learning sessions have been launched, to support the development of wound care knowledge and skills at Tier 2. The new look wound care programme can be accessed on the **e-learning for healthcare website**

The Foot at Risk - Building on “Essentials of the foot at risk”, this session provides a comprehensive overview of the assessment of the foot for peripheral vascular disease, including palpation and isonation of pulses, measuring toe pressure and ankle brachial pressure index, assessing for claudication, critical limb ischaemia and the WIfI classification system.

Choosing the right compression therapy – Building on “Essentials of lower limb ulceration”, this session provides reasons for compression, different compression therapy systems, measuring for and choosing maintenance hosiery.

SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

One of the challenges of improving the supply and distribution of wound care products is that there is currently no wound product classification system that allows the NHS to understand which wound care products are being supplied to the NHS. If there was such a system, it would also be possible to develop clinical decision support for selecting wound care products to help clinicians choose the right type of product for their patient.

The NWCSP has been working with suppliers and clinicians to address this issue. We are developing a wound product classification system which will provide product groupings that will interlink with all the existing systems to provide accurate wound care product data across the NHS. The system is being developed with input from wound product suppliers and clinicians to ensure that the resulting classification system has clinical relevance to be able to support product review and quality improvement initiatives at local, regional and national level.

The NWCSP is also working in partnership with NHS colleagues involved in wound product procurement and supply routes (such as the Drug Tariff, NHS Supply Chain and NHS Shared Business Solutions) and the Department of Health and Social Care to clarify the options for the supply and distribution of wound care products. A draft review of current routes for supply and distribution of wound management products has now been completed and, as part of the consultation process, will soon be shared with NWCSP stakeholders. Once feedback has been addressed, the review will be published on the NWCSP website to provide a resource for those responsible for local decision making about the routes of supply for wound care products for their organisations.

WOUND CARE INFORMATION STANDARD

We are working with the Professional Records Standards Body to produce a Wound Care Information Standard, which we hope to publish before the end of 2022.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

The NWCSP is working with the Royal College of Surgeons to develop national pro forma templates for referral to vascular services for re-vascularisation for peripheral arterial disease and endovenous ablation to promote accurate and informative referrals.

LOWER LIMB CLINICAL METRICS

Our **draft lower limb clinical metrics** are now available on the NWCSP website! These are being used by our First Tranche Implementation Sites to support data collection and the improvement of lower limb care.

CQUIN RESOURCES

The NWCSP website contains answers to frequently asked questions and other resources for health and care professionals to support CQUIN implementation.

IMPROVING LOWER LIMB CARE WEBINAR

In this webinar, the NWCSP team introduce the programme's work to improve lower limb care and key colleagues at our First Tranche Implementation Sites share their experiences of implementing the Lower Limb Recommendations.

For further information about the National Wound Care Strategy Programme, visit: www.nationalwoundcarestrategy.net

Or email: NatWoundStrat@yhahsn.com

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