

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR WOUND ASSESSMENT:

a guide for patients

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Your first appointment

You and your wound will be assessed fully when you first show your wound to a nurse, podiatrist or doctor.

Documenting

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At every appointment about your wound, they will record the key facts about you, your wound, the aims of treatment, how your wound will be managed and when you will be seen again.

3

Communicating

Your practitioner will help you understand the care you are receiving, include you in decision making and, if you wish, involve you in looking after your wound.

Understanding you

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You should receive a full check up that includes identifying the type of wound you have, what is likely to have caused it and the effect it has on your day-to-day life

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Examination

You and your wound(s) will receive a thorough assessment that includes examination of the wound(s) and talking about your wound-related symptoms and how involved you would like to be in your own care. You will be asked to give permission before any photographs of your wound are taken.

Setting objectives

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After assessment of you and your wound(s), the practitioner co-ordinating your care will discuss and agree with you the aims for your treatment and any further tests you need. They will then plan your treatment and discuss with you how you could take part in your care.

7

Review

The progress of your wound will be checked at every dressing change by the person who changes your dressing. That person will also check your treatment plan to make sure everything is on course.

Full reassessment

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You and your wound will be fully reassessed at regular intervals. You will also be fully reassessed if you or your wound get worse. After the reassessment, the healthcare staff looking after you will talk to you about how your treatment might need to be adjusted.

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Keeping in touch

The healthcare worker looking after you and your wound may suggest that you telephone, email or video call them to keep in touch about your progress and care. Video calling might also be used if you need to see a wound specialist.