



**For better care and wound
healing outcomes**

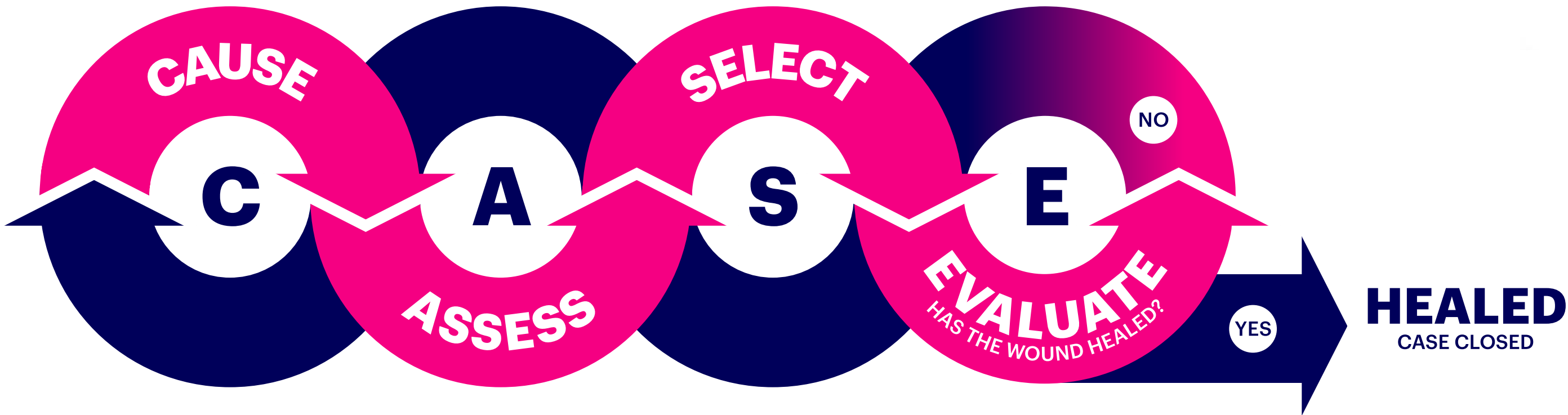


Improving Wound Assessment in Animals

Wound care in animals will have different requirements depending on the species presenting.

CASE is a tool to support the assessment of wounds.

You can access the relevant sections by clicking on side tabs or using the arrows.
Press the 🏠 button to return to this page.



CAUSE

C

ASSESS

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SELECT

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EVALUATE

E



Cause of wound

- As part of a holistic assessment it is essential to identify the cause of the wound(s)
- It is important to consider the animal's ability to heal. During the assessment process consider any factors which may impact on wound healing, such as owner compliance, patient concordance and nutrition. Early identification of these factors will optimise wound healing.

- **Please select an option for more info**

> Medical and surgical history	
> Nutrition and hydration	
> Medication	
> Pain assessments	
> Expression of normal behaviours	
> Owner influencing factors	

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> Medical and surgical history

Close

Co-morbidities such as obesity, diabetes, and anemia can impair wound healing

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> Nutrition and hydration

Close

A patient with a poor diet will struggle to heal in a timely manner, establish if dehydration could also be an issue

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> Medication

Close

Certain medication will impair wound progression
e.g. non-steroidal anti-inflammatories,
immuno-suppressants etc

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> Pain assessments

Close

Understand the patient's pain level and ensure appropriate analgesia is prescribed. This will improve quality of life, prevent low grade hypoxia, malnutrition, dehydration, depression, and wound interference

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> Expression of normal behaviours

Close

Consider the patient's lifestyle and ways of minimising stress when creating a treatment plan ; outdoor vs indoor living conditions, mobility, interaction with owners, playing with toys, and activity levels etc

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> Owner influencing factors

Close

Consider what is realistic not just for the patient but for each individual owner. This includes financial factors, compliance, and perception of the condition and outcomes of the treatment plan

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Assess the wound

- **How many wounds are there?**
 - Assess and document each wound separately
- **When and how did the wound occur?**
 - Date and duration
- **Where is the wound?**
 - Document the position of the wound/s
- **What are the wound measurements?**
 - Document wound dimensions including depth
- **What is the condition of the wound bed?**
 - Necrosis
 - Slough
 - Granulation
 - Epithelialisation
 - Exposed structures e.g. tendon or bone
- **What is the condition of the wound edges?**
 - Advancing
 - Non-advancing

> Continued



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Assess the wound

- What is the condition of the peri-wound skin?

- Healthy
- Macerated
- Eczema
- Friable
- Excoriated
- Dry

- Are there signs of infection?

- Pain
- Swelling
- Odour
- Friable granulation tissue
- Redness (erythema)
- Heat
- Increased exudate

- Assess exudate?

- Colour
- Amount
- Consistency

- Establish pain level?

- Use visual analogue scale to assess patient's pain level
- Record score
- Consider other underlying conditions e.g. arthritis
- Ensure appropriate analgesia is prescribed, monitored and reviewed regularly



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Select

• Now you have identified the wound cause and assessed the wound itself, use the T.I.M.E.S. framework

• Select a suitable treatment and dressing regime

• Document your wound healing aims and objectives, with a clear period for review

If there is	Observations	Treatment objectives	Dressing / treatment options	Suggested Essity dressings	Desired clinical outcome
TISSUE NON-VIABLE 	Slough or necrotic tissue present	Remove the non-viable tissue by debridement to aid wound progression	Options include: Autolytic, sharp surgical, enzymatic, mechanical or biological • Hydrogel • Debridement pad • Larval therapy • Moisture donating dressings	Cutimed® Gel - clear, amorphous hydrogel which can be used to help debride necrotic and sloughy tissue Cutimed® Sorbact® Gel - supports infection management and autolytic debridement in one dressing Cutimed® HydroControl® - unique moisture balancing dressing that either absorbs excess exudate or donates moisture	Viable wound base
INFLAMMATION OR INFECTION 	High level of bacteria could cause: pain, redness, swelling, heat, odour, pus, increased exudate, friable granulation tissue	Reduce bacterial load to manage infection or inflammation Consider: - Antimicrobials - Protease inhibition - Antibiotics	Local infection – consider topical antimicrobial /bacterial binding dressings e.g. Sorbact® technology, silver, honey, PHMB, iodine Systemic infection: consider topical antimicrobial and antibiotics	Cutimed® Sorbact® - a range of dressings that display hydrophobic properties irreversibly binding bacteria in a moist wound environment. Suitable for the management and prevention of wound infection	Bacterial balance, reduced inflammation and wound progression
MOISTURE IMBALANCE 	Heavy exudate - risk of maceration / excoriation Dry wound Friable skin Consider underlying cause of exudate	Aim for a balanced and optimal moist wound healing environment Choose a dressing to either absorb the excess exudate, or add moisture to dry wounds	High exudate - NPWT, super-absorbers, hydrofibres, alginates or foams Low exudate – hydrocolliods, hydrogels, films, moisture balancing dressing If maceration / excoriation present consider barrier preparation to protect vulnerable skin	Cutimed® Siltec® - foam dressings range offering effective and intelligent exudate management Cutimed® Sorbion® - range of super-absorbent dressings that retain high volumes of exudate, even under compression Cutimed® HydroControl® - unique moisture balancing dressing that either absorbs excess exudate or donates moisture Leukomed® - film dressing range	Optimal moist wound healing environment
ADVANCING / NON-ADVANCING EDGES 	Advancing, epithelialisation visible or non-advancing e.g. undermining, rolled edges	Is your wound showing signs of epithelialisation? If yes, continue with treatment If no – re-assess starting with C of CASE	Barrier preparations (e.g. barrier creams, ointments or films) Wound contact layers to help prevent pain and trauma	Cutimed® PROTECT - spray, foam applicator or cream which provides a long-lasting protective barrier against incontinence, exudate, water loss from the skin and damage to peri-wound margins Cuticell® Contact - a silicone wound contact layer to help prevent pain and trauma	Advancing edge of wound, healthy peri-wound skin and signs of progression to wound closure

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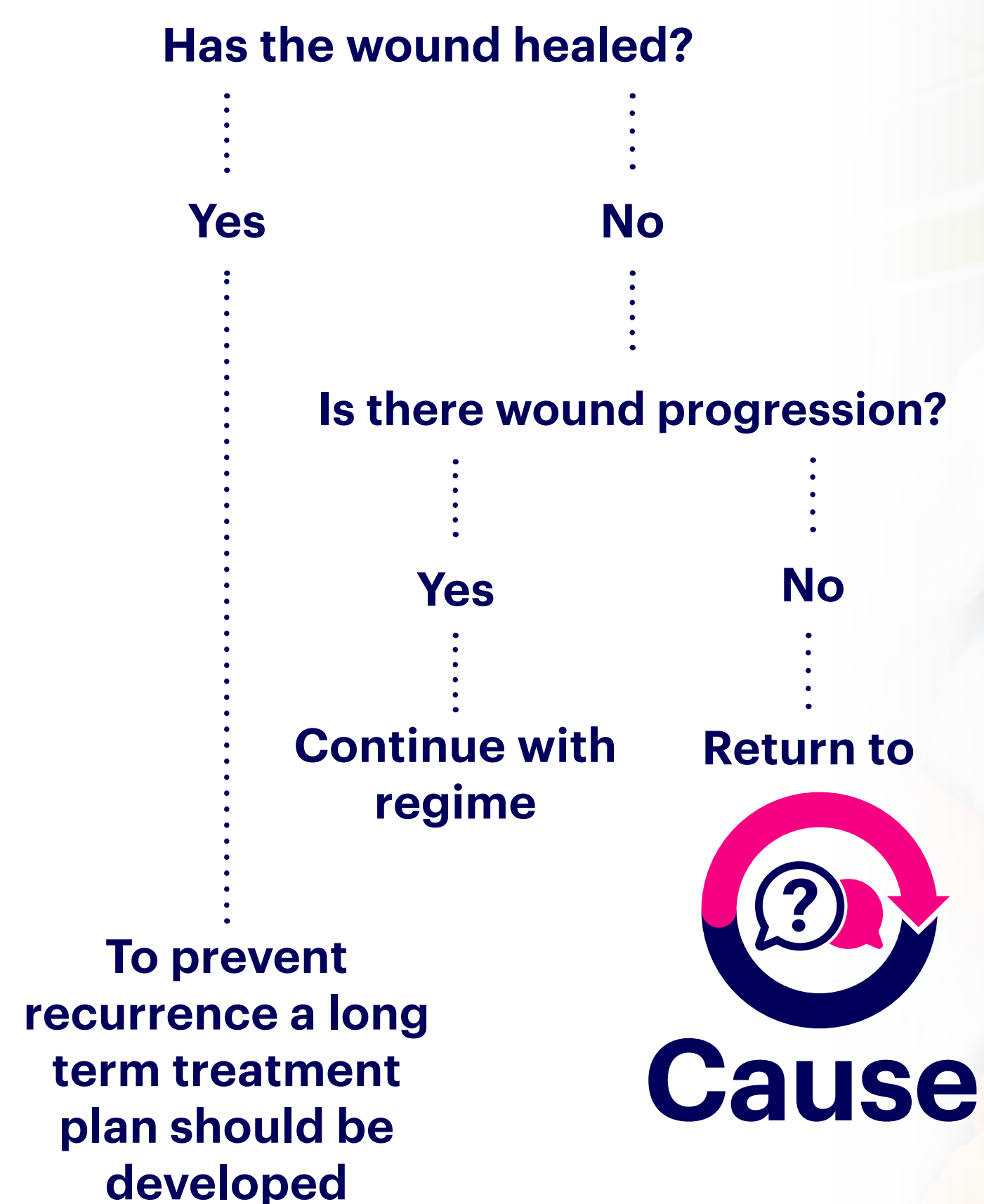
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Evaluation & Education

- Wound healing and patient status are not static and so the treatment regime must be dynamic
- Evaluate the outcomes of your documented treatment plan
- Modify plan of care based on new observations, if wound progression is not observed go back to 'C' of CASE, document date for re-assessment
- Provide information for your patient's owners on their treatment plan to create a partnership approach that will aid compliance and improve clinical outcomes



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Professional Accredited Training
for Healthcare Professionals

PATH - from Essity

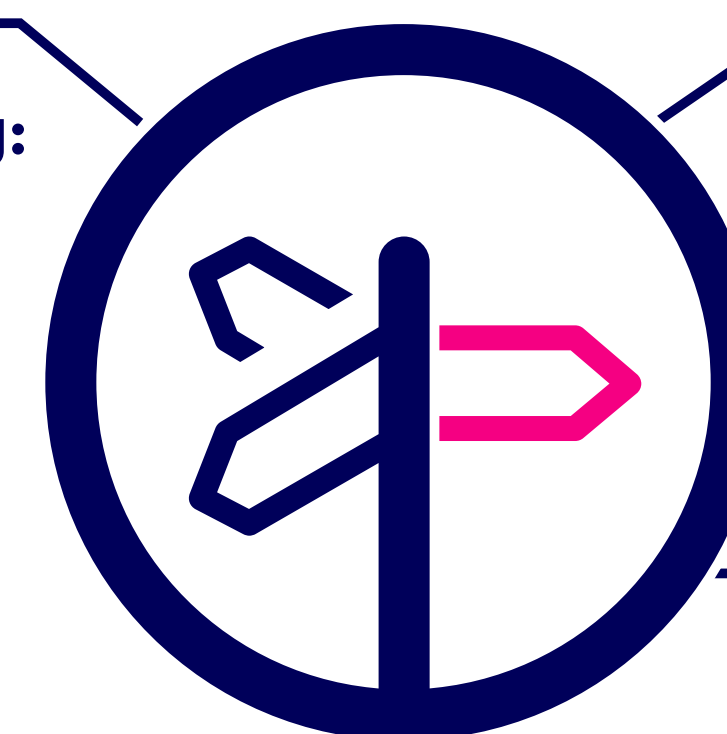
CASE is an educational tool that is part of **PATH**, a gold standard education platform with a diverse selection of therapy areas and learning styles, to help you provide the best possible patient care.

You choose the educational journey that suits you

Therapy Areas

Select from the following:

- Contenance Care
- Lower Limb Management
- Lymphoedema Care
- Wound Management
- Orthopaedics
- **Animal Healthcare**



Topics

Then choose...

...from the available topics within each therapy area and the different learning styles

Learning Styles

- e-Learning
- Webcast
- Bitesize Learning
- Masterclasses and Events

If you would like further education on wound care ask your Essity Account Manager about **PATH Animal Healthcare**. The training is modular-based so can be tailored to your needs and schedule. CPD certificates are provided. Further information can be found online at www.medical.essity.co.uk/medical-solutions/animal-health/

To contact your local Essity Account Manager, call **01482 670100** or email animalhealthcare@essity.com