

**For better care and wound
healing outcomes**




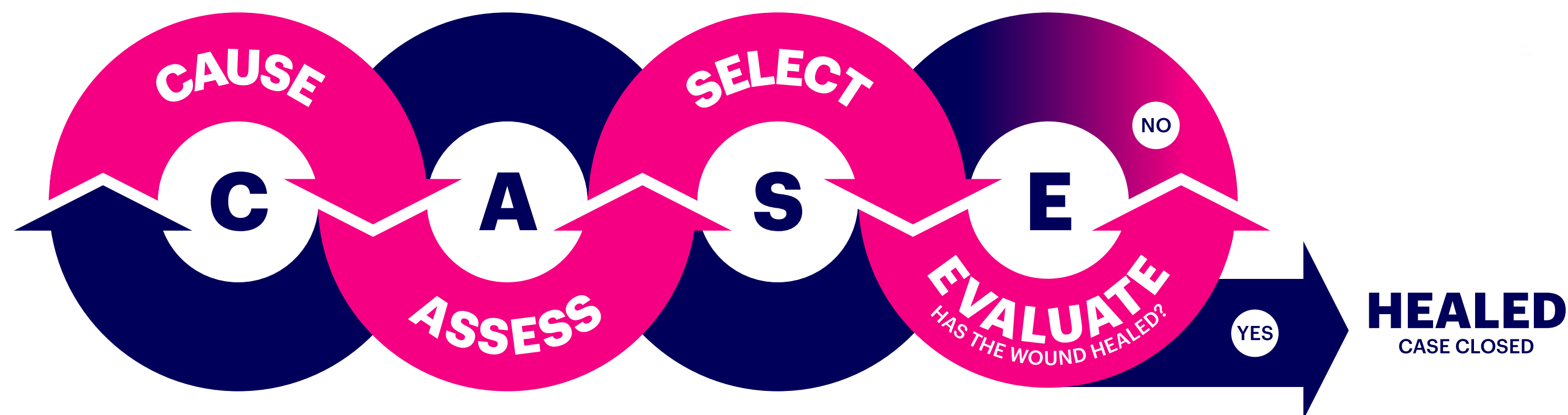
Improving Wound Assessment in Animals

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

Considering the animal's ability to heal and any other related risk factors, such as co-morbidities and nutrition etc, will help to ensure the healing process is optimised and wound closure achieved in a timely manner.

This guide aims to support you through the important steps that will improve the assessment of wounds, by taking a holistic approach for better wound healing outcomes, via a new and simple acronym - **CASE**.

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
A
SELECT
S
EVALUATE
E



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 



C CAUSE

A ASSESS







S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 

> Medical and surgical history

Close

Co-morbidities such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease can all impair wound healing

C CAUSE

A ASSESS







S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 

> 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

CAUSE

C

ASSESS

A

SELECT

S







EVALUATE

E



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 

> Medication

Close

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

C CAUSE

A ASSESS







S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 

> Pain assessments

Close

Understanding your patient's pain level, ensuring appropriate analgesia is prescribed will not only improve quality of life and concordance, but will also prevent low grade hypoxia, potential malnutrition, dehydration, depression and interfering with the wound

C CAUSE

A ASSESS







S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 

> Activities of daily living (ADL)

Close

A full ADL assessment should be performed to establish an appropriate treatment plan, that compliments the patient's lifestyle e.g. playing with toys, interacting with both humans and other animals, mobility issues, etc

C CAUSE

A ASSESS







S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Cause of wound

- Holistic patient assessment is essential to identify the underlying cause to effectively treat the wound
- To optimise your patient to improve their chances of healing, intrinsic and extrinsic factors can be altered to encourage healing
- Consider - **Please select an option for more info**

- > Medical and surgical history 
- > Nutrition and hydration 
- > Medication 
- > Pain assessments 
- > Activities of daily living (ADL) 
- > Age related changes 

> Age related changes

Close

e.g. thin, dry skin
(vulnerability to damage)

C CAUSE

A ASSESS

S SELECT

E EVALUATE



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 is the wound depth?**
 - Probe the wound to define depth and document
- **What is the condition of the wound bed?**
 - Necrosis
 - Slough
 - Granulation
 - Epithelialisation
 - Exposed structures e.g. tendon or bone
- **Wound measurements**
 - Document wound dimensions (length, breadth, depth)
- **What is the condition of the wound edges?**
 - Advancing
 - Non-advancing

> **Continued**



CAUSE
C

ASSESS
A

SELECT
S

EVALUATE
E



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

- 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



CAUSE

C

ASSESS

A

SELECT

S

EVALUATE

E



Select

• Now you have identified the wound cause and assessed the wound itself, use the T.I.M.E. framework to **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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 – hydrocolloids, 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

C CAUSE

A ASSESS

S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Evaluation & Education

- Wound healing and patient status are a continually moving platform 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



C CAUSE

A ASSESS

S SELECT

E EVALUATE



Professional Accredited Training
for Healthcare Professionals

PATH - Brand new from Essity

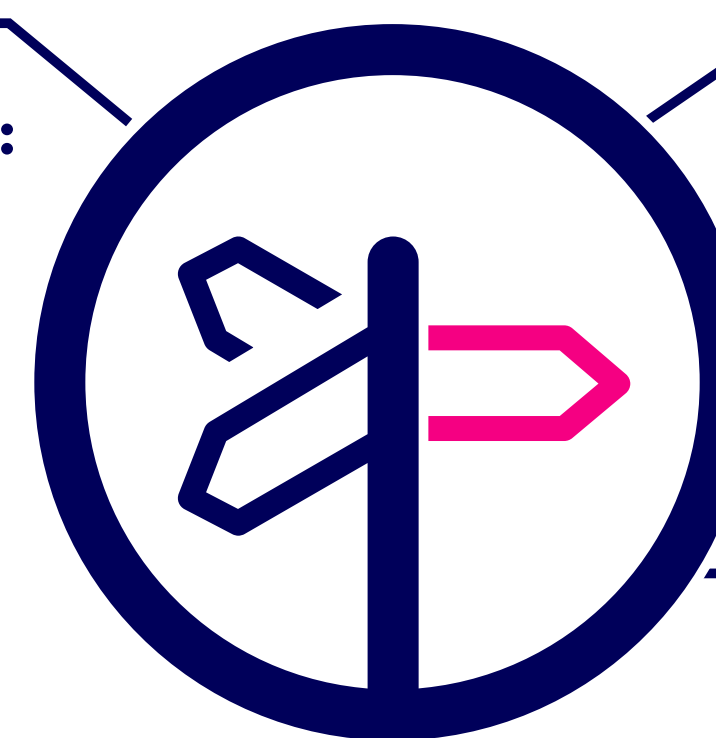
CASE is a educational tool that is part of **PATH**, a gold standard education platform with a diverse selection of therapy areas and learning styles, to help you provide the best possible patient care.

You choose the educational journey that suits you

Therapy Areas

Select from the following:

- Continance 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 Care**. 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.

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