



# *University of* **HUDDERSFIELD**

## **University of Huddersfield Repository**

Newton, Veronica

Diabetic foot ulceration: How do I choose a dressing?

### **Original Citation**

Newton, Veronica (2012) Diabetic foot ulceration: How do I choose a dressing? In: Wound Assessment and Product Selection, 14th June 2012, Huddersfield, UK. (Unpublished)

This version is available at <http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/id/eprint/14059/>

The University Repository is a digital collection of the research output of the University, available on Open Access. Copyright and Moral Rights for the items on this site are retained by the individual author and/or other copyright owners. Users may access full items free of charge; copies of full text items generally can be reproduced, displayed or performed and given to third parties in any format or medium for personal research or study, educational or not-for-profit purposes without prior permission or charge, provided:

- The authors, title and full bibliographic details is credited in any copy;
- A hyperlink and/or URL is included for the original metadata page; and
- The content is not changed in any way.

For more information, including our policy and submission procedure, please contact the Repository Team at: [E.mailbox@hud.ac.uk](mailto:E.mailbox@hud.ac.uk).

<http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/>



# **Diabetic foot ulcers**

## **How do I choose a Dressing?**

Veronica Newton  
Senior Lecturer  
in Podiatry

Wound Conference  
14<sup>th</sup> June 2012



# + Session outline

- DFU: what's our destination?
- Identifying the problem – DFU: dressing selection
- Challenges in DFU care
- Aligning the policy and guidelines
- Aim: Offer a wound decision model to map decision making when choosing dressings for DFU's.

# + Destination: London How do I get there?

- Car
- Train
- Plane



# + DFU – Destination: wound healing how do I get there?

- Patient
- Arterial Disease
- Infection
- Neuropathy
- Lifestyle
- Compliance
- Footwear
- Tissue viability





The problem:  
Patient attends  
with a foot  
wound....



What do you do?





DFU: dressing?

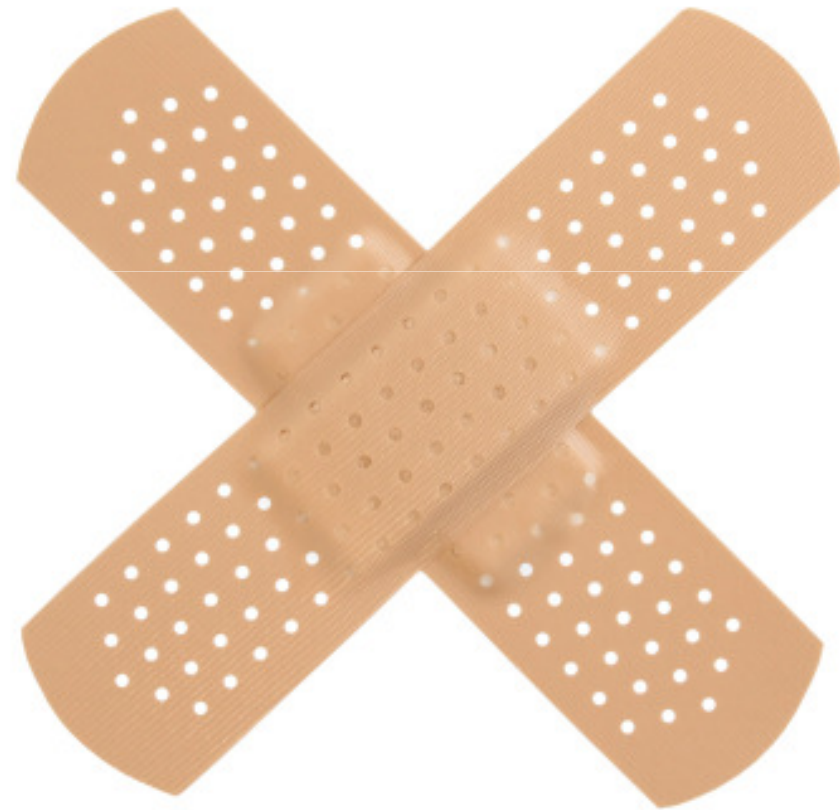


- Gauze and saline?





# + Dressings for Diabetic Foot Ulcers



(Armstrong 1998)



# + DFU: What dressing will you prescribe?

- Antimicrobial
- Tulle
- Foam
- Alginate
- Hydrocolloid
- Hydrogel
- Film
- Collagen derived
- Polyacrylate



# + Practitioner toolkit for dressing selection

- care pathway
- experience
- Cost
- Availability
- Service Provider
- formulary
- Research (Farndon 2009)
- Policy & guidelines
- outcomes



# + Back to basics: why are dressings prescribed?

- Reduce pain
- Improve mobility
- Assist healing
- Improve quality of life
- Reduce infection
- Not all wounds respond the same if given same dressing prescription....



# + What are the Issues for dressing DFU'S

## ■ Areas of agreement

Promote healing

Protection

Reduce infection

Optimal healing environment

Reduce pain

Comfortable

Easy to apply

## ■ Areas for improvement

■ Dressing prescription

■ Rationale for dressing

■ Frequency of review

■ Patient Advice

■ Outcomes

=**huge variation in services**

# + Choosing Quality in DFU care:

## ■ **dressing**

- Reduced Pain
- Quality of life
- Improve mobility
- Eliminate infection
- Assist healing

= **patient centred outcomes**

(Equity and Excellence  
Liberating the NHS DH 2010)

## ■ **Clinical governance**

- “A framework through which NHS organisations are **accountable** for continually improving the **quality** of their services and safeguarding **high standards** of care, by creating an environment in which **excellence** in clinical care will flourish “

(Sally 1998)

# + Developing a Woundcare Decision Making Model

- Structured model to record and document evidence which supports the stages of decision making for dressing provision.
- Maintain practitioner autonomy whilst providing a clear map for decision making
- capture multiple factors impacting on success of wound care management



# + Why do we need WDM model?

- Benchmarking
- Audit
- Standardise
- Evaluation
- Service improvements
- meets Professional body requirements.





# Get help from Diabetes guidelines

- DH (2004) NICE CG10 Type 2 diabetes: prevention and management of foot problems.
- International working group on the diabetic foot ( IWGDF) 2007 [www.iwgdf.org](http://www.iwgdf.org)
- SIGN 116
- Diabetes UK (2009): 'Putting feet first: commissioning specialist services for the management and prevention of diabetic foot disease in hospitals
- National collaborating centre (2011) Review of Clinical Guideline (CG10): Type 2 diabetes: prevention and management of foot problems
- DH (2011) NICE CG119 Diabetic foot - inpatient management of people with diabetic foot ulcers and infection



# Get help from Wounds literature

- European wound management association – EWMA

Position documents

[http://ewma.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/EWMA/pdf/Position Documents/2008/English EWMA Hard2Heal 2008.pdf](http://ewma.org/fileadmin/user_upload/EWMA/pdf/Position Documents/2008/English EWMA Hard2Heal 2008.pdf)

- European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel – pressure ulcer grades and classification system (grade 1-4)
- Wagner classification system (grades 1-5)
- Texas classification system (Armstrong 1998)

# + DFU: Assembling the key components



- Evidence in wound care
- Practitioner skill
- Clinical guidelines
- Health policy
- Cost, time, outcomes
- Centred around the patient

# + Wound care decision making



- The patient



- The wound



- The dressing

# + DFU: dressing decision making

## ■ P , W , D

- Patient, overall goal, disease state, compliance, activity, pain.
- Wound, assessments, local, systemic factors impacting on healing, referral.
- Dressing, identify aims short and long term and practical application, frequency of use, footwear.



# + WDM and DFU: How will it help?



- Use Standardised WDM format
- Has application for Novice or Experienced practitioner
- Records critical decision making skills
- Offers archived evidence
- Point of reflection for constant dynamic improvement.

+

## Where does WDM fit in NHS?



EBP relies on availability of research and the ability of practitioners to use it appropriately.



Developing strong evidence for the ideal dressing is a serious problem in DFU management



NHS policy  
Services need to produce patient outcomes data.





+ Take home message:  
Aspire for Quality in decision making  
for dressing selection.

- Ask your team the following question:
- Do we have a standardised, transparent, profiled, auditable approach to dressing selection?



+ Destination: woundcare  
happiness....





# Reference List

- Scally, G. and Donaldson, L.J. (1998) Clinical governance and the drive for quality improvement in the new NHS in England. *British Medical Journal* 317(7150)4 61-65.
- Farndon , L. et al (2009) Clinical Audit Of Core Podiatry Treatment In The NHS. *Journal Of Foot And Ankle Research* 2:7
- DH (2004) NICE CG10 Type 2 diabetes: prevention and management of foot problems. London. UK
- International working group on the diabetic foot ( IWGDF) 2007 [www.iwgdf.org](http://www.iwgdf.org)
- Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network SIGN 116 Management Of Diabetes A *national clinical guideline*. date of access 11/6/2012  
<http://www.sign.ac.uk/pdf/sign116.pdf>
- Diabetes UK (2009): 'Putting feet first: commissioning specialist services for the management and prevention of diabetic foot disease in hospitals
- National collaborating centre (2011) Review of Clinical Guideline (CG10): Type 2 diabetes: prevention and management of foot problems. London
- DH (2011) NICE CG119 Diabetic foot - inpatient management of people with diabetic foot ulcers and infection

# + Reference list

- European wound management association – EWMA Position documents  
[http://ewma.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/EWMA/pdf/Position\\_Documents/2008/English\\_EWMA\\_Hard2Heal\\_2008.pdf](http://ewma.org/fileadmin/user_upload/EWMA/pdf/Position_Documents/2008/English_EWMA_Hard2Heal_2008.pdf)
- European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel – pressure ulcer grades and classification system (grade 1-4)
- Wagner classification system (grades 1-5)
- Armstrong D (1998) Validation of a Diabetic Wound Classification System: The contribution of depth, infection, and ischemia to risk of amputation .Diabetes Care 21: 855-859
- DH ( 2010 ) Equity and Excellence Liberating the NHS date of access 11/6/2012  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_117794.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/@ps/documents/digitalasset/dh_117794.pdf)