TREATMENT PROTOCOL FOR MAINTENANCE OR NON-HEALABLE WOUNDS (when moist wound healing may be contraindicated)

Initiate Wound Record

** Contact physician/NP if urgent specialist referral is indicated**

- Photograph wound and file as per regional policy
- Initiate wound record (use NISS form # WR-145.0)

Establish Treatment Goal

Wound is considered unhealable due to:

- Severely impaired circulation
- Patient at end of life
- Other

Treatment goal:

- Wound is covered with stable hard, dry eschar or dry gangrene -- Goal: Maintain dry eschar / gangrene
- OR
- Wound is covered with moist, boggy slough or wet gangrene -- Goal: Protect and dry the wound if possible

Wound Management

** See formulary for specific product selection.**

- Clean and hydrate intact skin
- If the goal is to maintain dry eschar, cleanse the wound with enough betadine to remove any loose debris. Cleansing the wound with saline or soaking in tub/water is not recommended.

** Consult wound clinician nurse if dry eschar begins to lift or becomes moist / boggy.**

- If the goal is to dry the wound, cleanse the wound with normal saline or water; pat dry to remove excess moisture. Soaking in tub/water is not recommended.

** Consult wound clinician nurse if moist eschar does not dry out **

- Paint open areas and intact eschar with betadine and allow to dry well.
- Apply a protective dry gauze dressing, if required.
- Secure cover dressing

- Determine dressing change frequency according to risk of infection, dressing product used, effectiveness of cover dressing to manage drainage, need to minimize wound disturbance. Frequency: _________________________

- Reassess the wound at every dressing change and do a full wound reassessment weekly. At weekly reassessment take wound measurements and update wound record.

** Contact wound clinician nurse if wound area (L x W) increases.**

Counseling provided

- Confirm patient agrees with care plan
- Instructions for management/treatment and/or follow-up
- Risk factor reduction
- Address client concerns
- Patient/family/caregiver education
- Other
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Coordination of care (arrange consults if physician/NP has not already done so)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Vascular disease (specialist): via ☐ Primary care provider</td>
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<td>Client concerns: ☐ Dietician ☐ social work ☐ Other:</td>
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<td>Other:</td>
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**Individualized care plan**

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<tr>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Treatment Change &amp; Wound Progress Note</th>
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