Management Guidelines for DIABETIC FOOT ULCER / WOUND / LESION / INFECTION

Assess: Look, Pulses, Sensation, Oedema, Probe, Swab, Xray, Doppler, Bloods, Systemic illness.

Refer: All foot ‘ulcers’ in patients with known or suspected diabetes should be referred as inpatient or outpatient.

Culture: Deep wound culture of tissue and/or bone required – superficial swabs of NO clinical benefit.

Treat: Antibiotic, Dressings, Debridement, Surgery, Pressure offloading (All available via specialist foot clinics).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appearance</th>
<th>Superficial ulcer/blister</th>
<th>Ulcer with Cellulitis</th>
<th>Deep ulcer with Cellulitis</th>
<th>Gangrene Toxic patient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Example</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Superficial ulcer/blister" /></td>
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- **Fully assess as above**
  - **Appearance**
    - **Superficial ulcer/blister**
    - **Ulcer with Cellulitis**
    - **Deep ulcer with Cellulitis**
    - **Gangrene Toxic patient**

- **Refer**
  - Diabetic foot and wound team unless healed within 4 weeks
  - Diabetic foot and wound team - fax, email, phone hot foot line
  - Admit Medicine as emergency.

- **Dressing advice**
  - Appropriate wound dressing
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- **Antibiotic formulary advice**
  - [http://www.elmmb.nhs.uk/formularies/antimicrobials/](http://www.elmmb.nhs.uk/formularies/antimicrobials/)

- **Note:**
  - **Penicillin allergy**
  - Oral Clindamycin 300 - 450mg QDS

- **Established MRSA Infection (not colonization and inpatient setting)**
  - Teicoplanin IV or oral Doxycycline 100mg BD (confirm sensitivities with microbiology)

- **Consider IV to oral switch after 48 hours based on culture and sensitivity results – please contact diabetic foot team/microbiology**

- **If osteomyelitis suspected minimum of 4-12 weeks treatment required – please contact diabetic foot team /microbiology**

Notify emergency admissions or referral to Diabetic Foot and Wound Care Team on “Hot foot Line” 07866884362 (currently answer machine weekends and nights) and team will follow up on next working day.

Guidance updated by Diabetic Foot and Wound Care Team/Microbiology/Pharmacy: November 2011. Review date: November 2012.