



# Tissue Viability Bulletin    November 2022

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## Articles

### **Consensus statement - transforming leg ulcer care**

Lower-leg ulceration affects around 2% of UK adults, with over 1 million people living with leg wounds that can leave them in pain, immobile and socially isolated. Most leg ulcers – around 81% – are caused by venous disease.  
Nursing Times 2022 118 (10) 61-69

### **The links between heart failure and leg oedema: the importance of compression therapy**

Chronic heart failure (CHF) is a condition that increases the patient's risk of leg oedema, which can often lead to conditions such as lymphoedema, leaking lower limbs and the development of leg ulceration. In wound care, compression therapy is considered the gold-standard treatment for patients with chronic venous disease and lymphoedema/ chronic oedema, or who have developed a lower limb wound.  
Wounds UK 2022 18 (3) 22-26

### **Meeting the needs of a changing wound care environment: Tissue Viability Capability Framework, an online solution**

The original Tissue Viability Leading Change (TVLC) competency framework developed by clinical experts, academics and in partnership with URGO Medical 2016, has been widely implemented and used across the UK. Health professionals have used the framework to benchmark their knowledge/skills and clinical capability, while simultaneously identifying individual learning needs for continuous professional development  
Wounds UK 2022 18 (4) 46-51

### **Renaming the skin tones tool**

Jennifer Pearson, who was named the National Diversity Awards' 2022 BAME Nurse of the Year, is raising awareness of tissue viability and recognising pressure ulcers in people with black and brown skin tones.  
Wounds UK 2022 18 (4) 10-12



## Best Practice and Guidelines

### **UK Health Security Agency 2022**

#### Bacteriology Reference Department user manual

*The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Bacteriology Reference Department (BRD) is a national and international reference department for a wide range of bacterial infections. BRD has 3 designated World Health Organization Collaborating Centre (WHO CC), WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infections, WHO Collaborating Centre for Haemophilus influenzae and Streptococcus pneumoniae and WHO Collaborating Centre for Diphtheria and Streptococcal Infections.*

Available from: [Bacteriology Reference Department user manual \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

### **Cochrane Library 2022**

#### Reconstructive surgery for treating pressure ulcers

*There are several possible interventions for managing pressure ulcers (sometimes referred to as pressure injuries), ranging from pressure relieving measures, such as repositioning, to reconstructive surgery. The surgical approach is usually reserved for recalcitrant wounds (where the healing process has stalled, or the wound is not responding to treatment) or wounds with full-thickness skin loss and exposure of deeper structures such as muscle fascia or bone. Reconstructive surgery commonly involves wound debridement followed by filling the wound with new tissue. Whilst this is an accepted means of ulcer management, the benefits and harms of different surgical approaches, compared with each other or with non-surgical treatments, are unclear.*

Available from:

<https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD012032.pub3/epdf/full>

### **Society of Tissue Viability 2022**

#### Antimicrobials and non-healing wounds : an update

*This EWMA Document provides an update on the controversies and hopes published in the 2013 document: Antimicrobials and Non-healing Wounds. Evidence, Controversies and suggestions.*

*The aims are to:*

- *Highlight current knowledge regarding the use of antimicrobial agents, particularly in nonhealing*
- *wounds*
- *Discuss new information and progress in this field since 2013*
- *Offer recommendations for future actions*
- *Provide practical guidance for clinical practice concerning the appropriate use of antibiotics and antiseptics in wound management*

Available from: [Antimicrobial Stewardship - ewma.org](https://www.ewma.org)



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