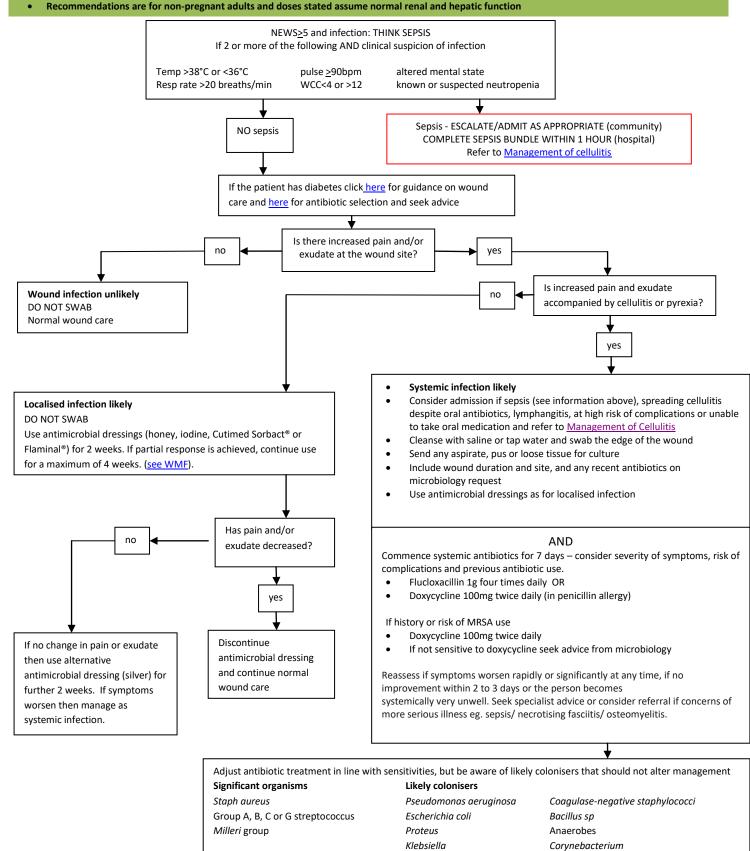
Management of Suspected Infection in Chronic Wounds and Ulcers

Tayside

STOP AND THINK BEFORE YOU PRESCRIBE ANTIBIOTICS Does your patient actually have an infection, and require treatment?

- Ensure optimal management of co-existing conditions, particularly diabetes mellitus, peripheral vascular disease or rheumatoid arthritis
- If appearance is atypical or if there is failure to progress after 12 weeks appropriate management consider referral
- Optimal wound care must be maintained throughout treatment See NHS Tayside wound management formulary (WMF)
- Consider differential diagnosis of venous eczema in suspected bilateral lower limb cellulitis
- Wounds less than 4 weeks old are not considered chronic and should be managed according to the NHS Tayside Wound Management Formulary (WMF)



NHS Tayside Antimicrobial Group Updated: June 2023 Review: June 2026

Potassium permanganate should be used as a soak for weeping wounds. See <u>Wound Management Formulary</u>. If further advice required after use of above protocol please contact the on call doctor for the relevant speciality; or microbiology on bleep 4039. Reference <u>Public Health England</u>, <u>SIGN CG 120</u> References: PHE, SIGN CG120, BNF 78

Enterobacter